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Big Y's Fresh & Local leadership changes

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Big Y Foods' Fresh & Local Distribution Center team is transitioning its leadership: Stephen M. Creed, vice president of distribution and logistics, will be retiring, and Eric A. Swensen will be appointed to the same role.

After over 45 years of diverse experience in the distribution industry and five years at Big Y, Creed will be retiring at the end of this month. His expansive background in all areas of logistics and distribution has helped to transform Big Y's distribution division. His efforts include implementation of a new warehouse management system, improved communications and establishing strategic partnerships in order to ensure the most efficient and timely fresh foods reach their customers every day.

"Steve has been a driving force in building our Fresh & Local Distribution Center through supporting and developing our teams, setting new standards and processes, upgrading equipment and tools in order to supply our stores with fresh and local products in the most efficient and effective way possible. We are all grateful for his strong leadership and vision that have helped both our store teams and customers throughout our chain," said Richard D. Bossie, Big Y chief operating officer and executive vice president. "We are confident that Eric's 39 years of industry experience will continue to bolster this entire division to ensure our mission of innovation and future growth of Big Y's self-distribution while maintaining a strong focus on fresh and local products."

Swensen began his career with Big Y in 1985 as a part time service clerk. After working in several departments, he was promoted to full time two years later. Since then, he has held several positions including managing many different departments until his promotion to store director in 1997. In 2006, he joined the operations team as a district sales and merchandising assistant. In 2009, Swenson moved to the sales and marketing department where he's held several positions, including manager of space management, director of frozen food and dairy. In 2014, he was named vice president of center store and in 2019, became vice president of fresh foods. He reports to Richard D. Bossie.

In addition, he holds a HIPPA certification in food safety and has attended the University of Connecticut. He has also been a volunteer at many Big Y sponsored community events. He and his wife, Jamie, reside in Southwick, MA.

Photo: Eric A. Swensen

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