

owner's growth plans. Nine trial stores will open in Victoria with a decision on their future made by Christmas. There are currently 29 Chickenfeed stores operating in Tasmania.

BI-LO launches local produce campaign

8 Jul 2009

US retailer BI-LO has launched a campaign to promote local produce. The initiative is designed to help showcase the farmers BI-LO partners with to provide locally grown produce across the Carolinas, Georgia and Tennessee. To ensure that the local foods meet BI-LO's standards for quality and freshness, it is inspected three times: at the farm, at the warehouse and at the store. "Nearly 50% of BI-LO's produce comes from farmers across North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee," said Bob Denomme, Director of Produce with BI-LO. "Throughout the summer months we hope our customers will taste first-hand our extensive selection of high-quality, fresh and affordable local produce."

CARREFOUR Belgium implements new self-scanning technology

7 Jul 2009

In Belgium, Carrefour has begun self-scanning with Datalogic's Joya mobile devices in two hypermarkets in Lier and Bierges. Datalogic's Joya has also been deployed at Carrefour's extensive self-service checkout project in France. Nevertheless, the approach in Belgium is different from the plans in Carrefour's homeland. At the two test hypermarkets in Lier and Bierges, with Carrefour also trailing a new process of checking out at manned tills. With the caddy-to-caddy procedure, which was invented and pioneered by competitor Colruyt, cashiers take the items out of one cart, scan them and put them directly into another cart. Customers using the self-scanning devices at these two Belgian hypermarkets, always pay at manned tills. Datalogic had already installed an older technology at Carrefour Belgium stores.

CARREFOUR will open a hypermarket near Paris in 2011

8 Jul 2009

Carrefour will open a hypermarket in Aubervilliers (in the north eastern suburbs of Paris), in the future shopping centre Le Millénaire, created by Klépierre and Icade. The hypermarket will mainly offer food but also non-food staples. A post for downloading music is also planned, as well as touchscreen terminals issuing recipes in some key departments. This 4,100 square metre hypermarket, planned to open in April 2011, will be the centre of Le Millénaire, which will have 56,000 square metres of commercial area, containing 95 boutiques.

DECA opens store in Livorno, Italy

8 Jul 2009

DeCA has opened a new state-of-the-art store in Livorno, Italy. The outlet, which officially opened on 5 June, is nearly double the size of the old commissary it replaced. The store also boasts an additional 500 SKUs, expanded aisles and enlarged departments throughout. The new deli-bakery has seen a 200% increase in sales thanks to its custom-made sandwiches and fresh salads to go. "This commissary is, indeed, your commissary – paid for with your surcharge money from the 5% you pay [on your purchase] every time you go through the checkouts," said DeCA Europe Director Thomas Milks. "We believe your new commissary will delight and amaze you and the services, savings and taste of home that DeCA brings together all join to make the commissary your premier quality-of-life benefit." The previous commissary, built in 1953, had been renovated in 1991, but had one-way aisles, an outdated décor package and no loading dock.

DUANE READE and HP to roll out instore publishing solutions

8 Jul 2009

US drugstore chain Duane Reade and HP have signed a deal to roll out HP Retail Publishing Solutions chain-wide. Following a successful 2008 pilot program in key stores, Duane Reade now intends to offer HP Photo Center in more than 200 locations in the greater New York City area. The Duane Reade pilot stores achieved up to 50% year-on-year improvement versus the chain-wide average in the in-store photo category. "Making this level of quality digital photofinishing convenient through HP kiosks and full-service counters across 200 of our stores is one more way we can be relevant and helpful to our customers on a daily basis," said Joe Magnacca, Chief Merchandising Officer at Duane Reade.

PANERA BREAD trials meeting service

8 Jul 2009

Panera Bread locations in the Indianapolis area are to begin offering a free meeting invitation service, where consumers can organise social or business meetings at the bakery-cafes. Consumers can go online at www.letsmeetatpanera.com to schedule a meeting and invite other guests. The company