

I am pleased to announce that Dan Downing will assume the role of Acting Director of Retail Operations of Region 2 (Eastern, Dominick's, Denver, Seattle, Portland, and Canada), while maintaining responsibility for supply chain operations.

Dan joined Safeway in October, 2005 as the Director of Internal Audit - Supply Chain. He has developed strong business partner relationships with his stakeholders and adds value to the business through assurance, improved operations, and safeguarding company assets. Dan is also recognized as a strong leader that develops and provides talent to the business.

Prior to joining Safeway, Dan was the Senior Audit Manager at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. where he led his team in all facets of the Internal Audit function. He was the Internal Audit liaison for International Logistics, Chair of the Education Committee, and initiated the departments Control Self Assessment efforts, which led to Enterprise Risk Management. While in operations for Wal-Mart, Dan had responsibility for fifteen grocery and general merchandise distribution centers. Dan began his Supply Chain career with McLane Company, a grocery wholesale provider, where he gained valuable hands-on experience in all operational areas of grocery distribution.

Combining his time in Internal Audit and Operations, Dan brings over 26 years of experience to the position. He is a Certified Internal Auditor and holds a Bachelors Degree in Finance from Arizona State University.

Jennie McCarthy, our Director of Retail Operations of Region 1 will continue to oversee retail audit activity over NorCal, Vons, Phoenix and Texas.

Please join me in congratulating Dan in his additional responsibilities with Safeway.