



### **Ahold Exec Tells of Plans for Automated Rx Kiosk**

SAN DIEGO (August 31, 2005) - An executive from Ahold USA, Braintree, Mass., detailed that company's plans for an automated prescription refill kiosk during the Pharmacy & Technology Conference of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, Alexandria, Va., here yesterday. Ahold was granted tentative approval in June by the Virginia Board of Pharmacy to test the ScriptCenter ATM-like dispensing machine from Asteres, San Diego, in one Giant Food Store in Reston, Va. The machine has yet to be installed, said Bradley Dayton, director of pharmacy operations for Ahold. "We are going to highlight self-service and convenience with the dispensing kiosk," he said. "The system will not only free up pharmacists while they are in the pharmacy, but can provide customers with extended pick-up hours without extending the pharmacists' hours," Dayton said. "The most important thing concerning technology is to have acceptance from pharmacy staff. No matter how good the technology, if they don't like it, it won't be used. But if it is used, it can create a unique customer experience."

Wendy Toth