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**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Circle K Uses New Technology  
To Prevent Sales of Tobacco, Alcohol and Lottery Tickets to Minors**

Phoenix, Ariz. (March 28, 2000) In its on-going efforts to prevent sales of tobacco, alcohol, and lottery tickets to minors, Circle K is introducing a technology-based tool that uses the magnetic strip on driver's licenses to verify a customer's age.

As part of its multi-faceted program to eliminate sales of age-restricted products to minors, Circle K just completed the installation of electronic age verifiers in all 530 Arizona stores. When the magnetic strip on the driver's license is swiped through this bright yellow hand-held device, it will read and display the customer's age. Anyone who appears under the age of 30 will be required to use the age verifier.

"This new technology is one more tool we can give our clerks to help them keep age-restricted products out of the hands of minors," said Robert J. Lavinia, president of Tosco Marketing Company, which owns the Circle K chain. "This new procedure will assist clerks in calculating a customer's age and reduce the possibility of being tricked by fake or altered driver's licenses."

"We applaud Circle K for using the magnetic strip on the drivers license to help prevent sales of age-restricted products to minors," said Diane Minton, assistant director of the Motor Vehicle Division Customer Service Program. "We want to assure the public that by state law, the only information contained on the magnetic strip is the information shown on the front of the license."

The ViAGE age verifier used in all Arizona Circle K stores was designed by CardCom Technology in Buena Park, California. The machine reads only the age information contained in the magnetic strip on a driver's license. The machine does not have a memory chip and therefore does not have the capability to store information. The age is displayed for five seconds, and then is erased.

“By utilizing the technology of these machines in all Arizona Circle K stores, we believe Circle K will further deter minors from attempting to make purchases of age-restricted products and stop those who do attempt to make a purchase,” said Nathaniel Spencer, national product manager of CardCom Technology, the machine’s manufacturer.

In addition, Mitch Shin, the inventor of ViAGE, stated, “Our motto is ‘Protecting Our Youth’ because that is our long term goal.”

Circle K has made significant strides with its multi-faceted program to eliminate underage sales by training more than 2,500 of its managers in the nationally recognized “We Card” program in 1998. The national coalition provides a comprehensive review of state and federal laws against under aged tobacco sales and procedures for preventing such sales.

In December 1999, Circle K announced its initiative to put all tobacco behind the sales counter to eliminate youth access to tobacco products. The new counters are currently being installed in all 2,100 Circle K’s nationwide.

Currently under Arizona state law, the legal age for alcohol purchases is 21 and the legal age for tobacco and lottery purchases is 18.

Tosco Marketing Company ([WWW.tosco.com](http://WWW.tosco.com)) is the Phoenix-based division of the Tosco Corporation (NTSE: TOS) and is responsible for the marketing of a family of well-known convenience store and gasoline brands including Circle K, the official pit stop of NASCAR, and 76, the Official fuel of NASCAR.