

# *In the beginning... from humble to supreme*

## **Dominic Stramaglia**



**Dominic Stramaglia,  
President and  
CEO of Supreme  
Lobster and  
Seafood**

Company, likes to think in terms of "what if". So, when two friends approached him in 1974 to invest in a lobster venture, Stramaglia was game.

**"I** liked the name Supreme Lobster," Stramaglia admits, "but I wasn't interested in working in the business". Playing the "what if" game, Stramaglia utilized his uncanny vision to see the viability of selling lobsters to Chicago restaurants.

Lack of experience in the seafood business, however, cost them a mortal error with their first lobster shipment from Boston. Using a child's wading pool as a holding tank, the three partners returned the following morning to find the lobsters floating belly-up due to a burned out compressor.

Safe food storage has always been paramount to Stramaglia, so when a freezer was needed, Stramaglia placed

an order with the Jefferson Ice Company for enough ice to be delivered in a freezer ice bin like the ones they use in convenience stores. "As soon as the delivery man left," Stramaglia chuckles, "we dumped out all the ice and the bin became our first holding freezer." >

