Retail Supply Chain Update
June 3, 2020

**Target employee tests positive for COVID-19**

- An employee at a distribution center in Madison, AL has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The facility was deep cleaned and sanitized after the diagnosis.
- All employees at the facility were notified.
- The employee is on paid leave.

**Amazon**

- The company sent a notice to sellers early Tuesday informing them that it’s hosting a “**Fashion Summer Sale Event**” on June 22. The notice says that participation in the promotional event is by “invitation only” and it’s expected to run anywhere from seven to 10 days long.
- The company is in the process of finalizing the landing pages for the event and asked sellers to submit deals for items with a discount of at least 30% by the end of the day on Wednesday.
- It’s unclear what items will be discounted as part of the sale or whether it will be restricted to Prime subscribers.
- This week, Amazon warehouse **workers lost a $2 pay bump** brought in to reward them for coming in during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Amazon has now phased out two major policies brought in to protect workers, the other being that they could take unlimited amounts of unpaid time off without being penalized.
- Amazon will start **offering emergency childcare and adult care** as a new benefit this summer for employees across its corporate offices, warehouses, and Whole Foods Market stores.
- With many companies gearing up for the gradual relaxation of coronavirus lockdowns, Amazon — whose worker policies have been under extreme scrutiny during the outbreak — is helping employees offset the loss of schooling and care options.
- From June 2 until October 2, the tech giant is expected to substantially subsidize up to 10 days, or 100 hours, of backup childcare and senior care for its more than 650,000 U.S. workers. That adds up to a total of 65 million hours across the company.
- Amazon partnered with Care.com (IAC), a website that connects families with caregivers, and both full-time and part-time employees will be eligible for the benefit.

**Tyson Foods**

- A total of **815 workers at two facilities** in Iowa have tested positive for COVID-19.
- 591 of the workers are employed at its Storm Lake pork packing plant, which has temporarily closed while it is sanitized.
- The plant, which has about 2,300 workers, is scheduled to reopen Wednesday.
• About 75% of the employees testing positive had no symptoms.
• Another 224 workers tested positive for the coronavirus at Tyson’s beef and pork processing plant in Council Bluffs, where nearly 1,500 people work. About half of those testing positive had no symptoms.
• As of Friday, May 29, Tyson Foods reported 786 active coronavirus cases at its Dakota City, Nebraska, beef plant. Testing at the Tyson Foods pork plant in Madison revealed 212 workers had COVID-19.
• A quarter of Nebraska’s virus cases are tied to the food industry.
• Company officials say the Dakota City facility has weathered the worst of the outbreak there and is gradually ramping up its operations.
• About 17.5% of the 4,500 workers and contractors employed at the Dakota City facility have tested positive.
• Dakota County, with a population of only 20,000 people, has the second-highest number of coronavirus cases in Nebraska, with 1,669 confirmed cases. Twenty-five people there have died, including several Tyson workers, according to relatives, community members and media reports.

**U.S. temporarily to allow certain impurities in hand sanitizer**

• The U.S. government said this week it will temporarily allow some impurities in alcohol-based hand sanitizer to ensure access to the product during the coronavirus pandemic, reversing course after having tightened restrictions in April.
• The move will provide clarity on impurity limits for a slew of fuel ethanol companies that had switched to producing hand sanitizer during the outbreak, after regulators discovered some of the impurities, including cancer-causing acetaldehyde, several weeks ago.
• “We are specifying interim levels of certain impurities that we have determined can be tolerated for a relatively short period of time,” the Food and Drug Administration said on its website.
• “We believe that our temporary guidance sets the proper level of flexibility at the current time to help protect Americans during this public health emergency.”
• The FDA guidance allows up to 2 parts per million of benzene and 50 ppm of acetaldehyde, according to the website.