Retail Supply Chain Update
June 29, 2020

**H-E-B institutes purchasing limits for paper towels, toilet paper as COVID-19 cases rise**

- H-E-B grocery chain announced new purchasing limits for multiple household items in an attempt to ensure availability to all customers.
- Single and multipacks of toilet paper along with paper towels will be limited to two per purchase for all H-E-B stores, according to a June 27 update. Several other non-food items remained on H-E-B’s purchasing limit list including acetaminophen, hand soap and disinfecting sprays/wipes.
- H-E-B will also not accept returns on certain items that were purchased in anticipation of the coronavirus outbreak.

**Tyson Foods says 371 additional workers have tested positive for COVID-19 at Missouri chicken plant**

- Friday’s announcement confirms suspicions that the recent spike in McDonald County’s reported COVID-19 numbers was the result of large-scale testing at the chicken plant.
- In a news release, Tyson said it tested 1,142 employees from June 17 to June 19, and 291 tested positive for COVID-19. Of those 291, Tyson said 249, or 85%, were asymptomatic or didn’t show any symptoms.
- Tyson said that an additional 80 Noel employees tested positive for COVID-19 in separate tests that were performed by their health care providers or the Department of Health and Senior Services.

**UFCW: Over 11,500 grocery workers affected in first 100 days of pandemic**

- United Food and Commercial Workers International (UFCW) said at least 82 grocery store workers have died from COVID-19 and 11,507 have been infected or exposed to the virus in the first 100 days of the outbreak.
- In grocery stores during April — when incidence of the virus peaked in many areas of the country — 46 UFCW members died from COVID-19, marking that industry segment’s highest single-month total during the pandemic, UFCW reported.
- Grocery’s biggest overall spike in the spread of the coronavirus came in May, when 5,901 new workers were infected or exposed, the union said.
- In the press event, UFCW International President Marc Perrone criticized large employers — citing Amazon, Walmart and Kroger — for “still keeping us in the dark” in terms of the total number of their employees who have died from or been infected with COVID-19. “Simply put, it is impossible to hold the government or corporate America accountable when they hide the true impact of this outbreak,” he said.