Retail Supply Chain Update
August 13, 2020

**Hours-of-service waiver extended for commercial truck drivers through Sept. 14**

- The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) on Wednesday announced the extension and modification of its Hours of Service emergency declaration, which was set to expire this Friday, Aug. 14, but will now provide regulatory relief until Sept. 14.
- The updated and extended waiver allows for commercial drivers transporting “food, paper products and other groceries for emergency restocking of distribution centers or stores” to be eligible for hours of service relief.
- The Arlington, Va.-based National Grocers Association, the national trade association representing the retail and wholesale grocers that comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry, applauded the move.
- In its letter to FCMSA, NGA noted that “retail grocery has yet to recover from the supply shortages that were all too common in the early months of COVID-19. Coupled with low product availability — many manufacturers are operating at only 60% to 80% fill rates — demand on trucking for grocery delivery is at an all-time high. Many of our companies are experiencing an increase of 15% to 20% in outbound load traffic, which has placed added pressure on an already problematic shortage of truck drivers.”

**Wilkesboro Tyson Food plant cluster ends after more than 600 total positive cases**

- The Wilkes County Health Department announced Wednesday the Tyson Foods, Inc. coronavirus cluster is now closed after more than 600 total cases since April.
- Tyson Foods, Inc. had 612 positive coronavirus cases since April, according to the Wilkes County Health Department.
- In order for Wilkes County Health Department to close the meat processing plant cluster, the plant had to have 28 days without a new case.

**Brazil judge rules that JBS must test workers for COVID-19 under 10-day deadline**

- On 12 August, a labor court judge ruled that meat packing giant JBS SA has 10 days to medically screen workers at its Garibaldi chicken plant.
- The ruling states that JBS must pay for COVID-19 testing for every worker.
- More than 900 people work at the plant in Rio Grande do Sul state, of which 230 have already tested positive for the novel coronavirus, prosecutors who sought the order said, citing data from local health services.
- In the 12 August ruling, Brazilian labour Judge Graciela Maffei also ordered JBS to ensure that its Garibaldi workers remain at least 2 meters (6 feet) apart at the facility’s entrances and exits, during shift changes, in changing rooms and other areas of the factory such as the restaurant.
• Maffei also ruled that JBS should supply and supervise use of PFF2 respirators by all employees there, including on the buses that ferry them to work.
• Each worker should receive a new respirator every day, according to a copy of the ruling.

**FDA Announces New Deadly Toxin Found in Hand Sanitizers, Adding to Recalls**

• The FDA on Wednesday announced another toxin that can be as deadly as methanol. That toxin is called 1-propanol, which can depress the central nervous system. The FDA stated some products are labeled to contain ethanol or isopropyl alcohol, but have tested positive for 1-propanol contamination.
• Consumers who have any products on the do-not-use list, or potentially has methanol or 1-propanol, should quit using them immediately and get rid of them through a hazardous waste container. The agency recommends to not wash them down the drain.
• The FDA said the biggest issues with the products are young children accidentally ingesting the toxin, or adults and adolescents who drink it as a substitute for alcohol.
• The full list of hand sanitizers on the FDA recall list is [here](#).