GCCA Update on COVID-19

September 3, 2020
Phone lines are muted throughout the broadcast.

Please ask questions using the “Questions” panel in your GoToWebinar toolbar.

We will hold questions until the end of the webinar and will answer as many questions as time permits.

This session is being recorded and will be made available to all members following the broadcast.
Speakers and Moderator

Lowell Randel
Senior Vice President, Government and Legal Affairs
Global Cold Chain Alliance

Erin Grady
Manager, Education and Knowledge Management
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Agenda

- Regulatory and Governmental Updates
- GCCA Recovery Guide and Resources
- Upcoming Events
- Q&A
Trump Executive Orders: Unemployment

• States must “opt-in” to the program by September 10\textsuperscript{th}
• 34 states have already been approved
  • South Dakota has opted not to participate
• Two options: $300 without additional state funds or $400 with state funds
  • Kentucky, Montana and West Virginia providing $400
• $44 billion from the Disaster Relief Fund is available to support the program
• FEMA estimates this will last about 5-6 weeks, depending on how many states participate.
Trump Executive Orders: Payroll Tax

- Authorizes deferral of employee side payroll taxes September 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020
  - 6.2% of salary
- IRS has issued guidance: IRS Notice 2020-65
- Applies to employees with bi-weekly pay of less than $4,000 (pre-tax)
- Employers are not required to defer the payment of payroll taxes
- If an employer does elect to defer payment, Notice 2020-65 requires the employer to withhold and pay those deferred taxes later
- From January 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021, the employer must “ratably” deduct any deferred employee OASDI taxes from the wages paid to the employee
  - Penalties and interest could apply if deferred taxes are not paid timely
Trump Executive Orders: Evictions

- Executive Order directed federal agencies to study whether an eviction moratorium was necessary.
- On September 1, CDC Director issued a declaration determining that the evictions of tenants could be detrimental to public health control measures to slow the spread of COVID.
- People earning less than $99,000 ($198,000, if married) can apply for relief.
- Accrued rents would still need to be paid.
Trump Executive Orders: Student Loans

- Waives student loan interest until Dec. 31
- Extends the current relief under the CARES Act that is set to expire Sept. 30 by two months.
- Payments are scheduled to restart on Jan. 1, 2021.
- Applies to loans held by Dept. of Education
Prospects for Legislation

• Legislators from both parties have expressed their preference for a legislative solution to COVID relief

• However, parties remain far apart and negotiations have broken down

• Price tag is a major stumbling block
  • Democrats offering to come down from $3.4 trillion to around $2.2 trillion
  • White House has signaled $1.3 trillion is their top number

• Senate Republicans planning to advance a bill next week
Senate Republican Proposal

• Senate Republicans working on a new package, similar to HEALS Act
  • Some are calling it the “Skinny COVID package”

• Expected to include:
  • Liability protection
  • $300 federal unemployment payments
  • Funding and Improvements to PPP program
  • Funding for Postal Service
  • Support for schools
  • Testing and contract tracing
State Taxability of Forgiven PPP Loans

• Variability among states
• Different conformity policies
• California plans to tax PPP
OSHA Releases New Resources

Steps to Reducing Worker Exposure to COVID-19 in Fish and Seafood Processing and Packaging Facilities

Keep you and the people working around you safe. Take these steps even if you have no symptoms of COVID-19.

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Maintain at least six feet physical distance between co-workers, where possible.
New Checklists for Food Operations

FDA and OSHA have teamed up to develop checklists for food operations related to:

1. Minimizing the spread through monitoring employee health, screening and operation configuration for social distancing

2. Existing regulations that can assess the impact of COVID-19 operational changes on food safety practice.
States Developing COVID Standards

- Virginia standard went into effect July 27, 2020
  - Compliance dates approaching for training and disease plans
- Oregon published a draft standard on August 17\textsuperscript{th} and plans to finalize in September
- Washington, other states also considering standards
GCCA Statement on Safety of Food and Food Packaging

Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA)
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2d •

GCCA and our member companies have worked tirelessly to protect the safety of our workers and the products that they handle. These efforts are vital to ensuring that people across the globe have access to the safest, highest quality food. See more...

Statement Regarding the Safety of Food and Food Packaging
gcca.org

The Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) has played an active role in developing resources to help...
Concerns Over Safety of Food Packaging

“Based on the science related to the survivability of the COVID-19 virus on surfaces and that fact that this is a respiratory illness, primarily transmitted person-to-person, the risk of infection through contact with food packaging is extremely low.”

Dr. Don Schaffner, Professor of Food Science, Rutgers University
Member of the GCCA Scientific Advisory Council

Related Guidance:
• Scientific Advisory Council
• Guide: “Talking to the Media About COVID at Your Facility”
Vaccine Status and Policies

- Operation Warp Speed is moving to advance candidate vaccines
- Trump Administration has directed states to be ready to distribute vaccines by November 1st
- GCCA is working with food industry partners to ensure that essential workers are prioritized for vaccines (just behind healthcare/first responders and high-risk individuals).
COVID-19 Testing Services

• Testing policies and availability continue to be an issue of consideration for businesses
• GCCA has identified a service provider who can do testing of workplaces
• Onsite option, as well as home testing
• Members interested such services can contact GCCA for additional information
GCCA Virtual Policy Forum

- Featured educational sessions focused on the rules and regulations that directly impact the industry
  - OSHA, EPA, FDA and FSIS
  - COVID implications for transportation and employment law
- Session recordings and slides now available on the GCCA website
Construction Business Impact Survey

First of its kind research into the economic and operational impact of the coronavirus pandemic on controlled environment building construction.

Full report is available on the GCCA website.
Follow-up to GCCA COVID-19 Rapid Response Guide.

Guides businesses through two stages of recovery:

- Bringing your workforce back on-site
- Ensuring continued safety and well-being
Tracking Reopening State-by-State

National Governors Association’s interactive map tracks metrics such as:

- Mask orders
- Allowable gathering sizes
- Interstate travel restrictions
- Stay at home orders
GCCA Resources

- WFLO Scientific Advisory Council
- GCCA Online Communities

What is the urgency of your request?
- Urgent
- Somewhat Urgent
- Not Urgent

Please describe your inquiry with as much detail as possible.

3PL Supply Chain Forum

What are your questions about COVID-19?

Catharine Perry  yesterday
You might have seen the GCCA member email that went out today about what the asu...

1. What are your questions about COVID-19?

Posted yesterday
• Delivering innovative cold chain education virtually from October 14 – November 10.

• Essential content for individuals of all levels within GCCA membership:
  • C-Suite Executives
  • Facility Operations
  • Engineering and Construction
  • Supply Chain and Transportation
  • Customer Engagement

Registration is now open!
QUESTIONS?

Global Cold Chain Alliance

www.gcca.org
703-373-4300

Lowell Randel
lrandel@gcca.org

Erin Grady
egrady@gcca.org