



March 20, 2020

Dear GPI Members:

Here is today's COVID-19 update from GPI:

Building on yesterday's progress: Late yesterday, the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Administration (CISA) informed state/local officials on which essential infrastructure functions should continue normal operations during the COVID-19 outbreak. The federal government's essential determination clearly recommends food and beverage packaging and supply chain as an essential manufacturing functions that should continue operations – along with taking steps to mitigate exposure, and limiting the number of people on-site. States are for the most part pointing to the DHS list for guidance, and GPI suggest that states reference this guidance, to keep food and beverage supply chains moving.

Advocating for Glass Container Manufacturing as an “Essential” industry: In coordination with our manufacturing member companies, we continue to make the case that glass container manufacturing, our raw materials and supply chains, along with our food and beverage customers be considered "essential operations."

GPI Continued Outreach to Governments: GPI continues to engage with federal, state and local officials regarding critical supply chain designations. Late Thursday evening, **California** and today **Pennsylvania** (about an hour ago) indicated [they will be following the CISA guidelines](#). GPI and member companies have been in touch with Pennsylvania Congressional staff, along with top aides in Governor Wolf's office to ensure glass container manufacturing is recognized within the CISA guidelines.

This alignment is a positive development and provides clarity for operations across the country as states take action. Our outreach to both California and Pennsylvania helped result in both states aligning with the most recent, recommended, federal guidelines. We will continue to take this message to additional state and federal leaders, and will turn next to local public officials, due to local actions that may restrict operations.

GPI as a part of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) CMA: GPI participated in a NAM Council of Manufacturing Association briefing where Vice President Pence clearly indicated the vital role of manufacturing

supply chain; along with messaging from Agriculture Secretary Purdue, emphasized the need for continued manufacturing to support our food and beverage customers.

The NAM continues to [maintain a resource](#) to track emerging state and local restrictions as we best understand them. *Importantly, on today's NAM call, all parties were encouraged to take stock of excess N-95 industrial masks and consider options to help backstop your local the health care industry if they are suffering from a shortage of health care grade masks.*

Next Steps: GPI is tracking all **developments related to recycling systems**, with respect to both **bottle bill deposit states** and MRF operations shutting down aspects of recycling activity. GPI is assessing the impact on cullet supply and weighing in where we can. We are supporting glass recycling efforts in Michigan and other states. Please let us know how we can supplement any outreach you are conducting. Recycled glass remains a critical and advocated part of our supply chain, as these consumer and business/supply-chain developments continue to unfold. *WasteDive* is following this closely - [click here](#) for their latest, daily update of known changes.

Communication Outlets: GPI has created new communications channels in addition to our weekly SmartBrief. In addition, a refreshed GPI website is in the final stages of development and should be ready soon. To stay up-to-date on GPI news and COVID-19 developments, follow GPI on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#), and visit our [News & Events page](#).

GPI encourages all member companies to follow COVID-19 [business guidance](#) provided by the U.S. regulatory authority, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Please reach out to me directly with any questions at the office 703-684-6359, sdefife@gpi.org, or my cell if urgent, 703-537-6202. Know that you can also contact Bryan Vickers with GPI's member services department, bvickers@pacellp.com, 703-403-2882, with any questions or inquiries.

Thank you,

Scott

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