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Illinois Sustainable Technology Center

NEWS

JULY 2020 FOOD & BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING NEWS

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Will sustainability take a backseat to COVID-19 challenges?

Supply Chain Dive, 7/9/2020

Procurement leaders from Danone, PepsiCo, L'Oreal and more see the practices and tools gained through sustainability work as assets in the battle against pandemic supply chain disruptions.

How Dole plans to eliminate food waste by 2025

Fast Company, 6/30/2020

Each year, Dole grows billions of bananas—the world's most popular fruit—along with other produce. But not all of those billions of bananas end up as food: Some portion of them are lost along the supply chain, wasting energy, money, and nutrients. And the company also generates waste from the parts of the fruit that don't get eaten. In the next five years, the company plans to eliminate those losses entirely.



Bumble Bee CEO talks seafood changes

Progressive Grocer, 6/29/20

Jan Tharp began her career in consumer packaged goods nearly 30 years ago as a packaging engineer. She joined the San Diego-based Bumble Bee Seafood Co. as SVP of operations a decade ago and was named COO in October 2012. Tharp was elevated to the role of CEO in May 2018 amid a series of legal issues that led to a bankruptcy filing last fall, followed by an acquisition of the company earlier this year by longtime supplier partner FCF.



With a tumultuous period behind Bumble Bee and a new, supportive owner, Tharp has successfully navigated choppy waters to rally her team to focus on product innovation, sustainability and creating a new generation of seafood lovers.

Danone's Eric Soubeiran: 'The food system is broken'

GreenBiz, 7/20/2020

Earlier this year, Danone became the first listed company to become an "entreprise à mission," a new type of corporation created by a 2019 French law. The pioneering governance structure will see the food giant officially entrench environmental, social and societal objectives into its bylaws, alongside more typical profit goals.

Eric Soubeiran, the company's vice president of nature and water cycle, explained that weaning the company off intensive farming is at the core of its new sustainability mission.



Researchers print, tune graphene sensors to monitor food freshness, safety

Iowa State University, 6/25/2020

Researchers dipped their new, printed sensors into tuna broth and watched the readings.

It turned out the sensors – printed with high-resolution aerosol jet printers on a flexible polymer film and tuned to test for histamine, an allergen and indicator of spoiled fish and meat – can detect histamine down to 3.41 parts per million.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has set histamine guidelines of 50 parts per million in fish, making the sensors more than sensitive enough to track food freshness and safety.

Making the sensor technology possible is graphene, a supermaterial that's a carbon honeycomb just an atom thick and known for its strength, electrical conductivity, flexibility and biocompatibility. Making graphene practical on a disposable food-safety sensor is a low-cost, aerosol-jet-printing technology that's precise enough to create the high-resolution electrodes necessary for electrochemical sensors to detect small molecules such as histamine.

Sustainability is surviving COVID-19, IRI says

Food Business News, 7/23/2020

Products carrying a sustainability claim have continued growing during the COVID-19 pandemic, capturing a 17% market share during the first half of 2020, according to research from IRI and the NYU Stern Center for Sustainable Business.

Sustainability-marketed products saw a 56% increase in dollar sales during the week ended March 15, when CPG sales peaked due to pantry stocking. More than half of consumers said they are buying more or as much organic products as they did prior to COVID-19, and 7 in 10 said they are buying more or as much eco-friendly products.

OTHER STORIES

Agriculture

- Bayer takes steps to make carbon sequestration a farmer's newest crop opportunity *Hoosier Ag Today, 7/21/20*
- From the lab to the field, agriculture seeks to adapt to a warming world *e360, 7/25/20*
- Indy ag company pushing regenerative farming *Inside Indiana Business, 7/30/20*
- Universities partner to create a midwestern hemp database, ask for grower participation *Hemp Grower, 7/25/20*

Breweries & distilleries

- Kentucky whiskey distillery to be powered by 100% renewable electricity by 2030 *Environment + Energy Leader, 6/29/20*

Energy, water, & waste

- Sustainable fashion using food waste *Waste360, 7/6/20*

Packaging

- Dairy company uses first milk packaging in Ireland labelled as carbon neutral *Environment + Energy Leader*, 6/29/20
- Evian's new 100% recycled plastic bottle comes without a label *Fast Company*, 7/7/20
- How Perdue, Smithfield and Silver Fern Farms are reducing packaging waste *GreenBiz*, 6/17/20
- Johnnie Walker whisky will come in paper bottles next year *AdWeek*, 7/13/20
- MRFs & brands working together to design packaging for recycling *Waste360*, 7/7/20
- PG Tips ditching plastic as part of switch to plant-based range *KamCity*, 7/2/20
- Sustainability trends drive innovation for labeling materials *Beverage Industry*, 7/24/20
- Sustainable packaging company launches wine bottle made from 94% recycled paper *Food Dive*, 7/2/20

Supply chain

- Albertsons ups its seafood sustainability efforts *Progressive Grocer*, 7/1/20
- Cargill completes mapping of entire Brazilian soy supply chain *Candy & Snack Today*, 6/30/20
- Chipotle launches virtual farmers market for suppliers *Restaurant Dive*, 6/30/20
- Crisp, the platform for demand forecasting the food supply chain, gets \$12 million in funding *Tech Crunch*, 7/15/20
- Hazel Tech announces partnership with PureFresh Sales *Perishable News.com*, 7/2/20

REPORTS AND USEFUL LINKS

- Assessment of Alternatives to Cleaners and Sanitizers for the Brewing Industry
- Pollution Prevention 101 LibGuide: Food Manufacturing

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 18, 1 pm CDT: How Digital Transformation Impacts the Operational Efficiency and Sustainability of Your Business

Over the past years, the manufacturing industry has experienced massive changes worldwide and the situation continues to evolve further. Highly informed and demanding consumers are shaping the market, supply chains keep remodelling into complex ecosystems and digital transformation keeps being a key player in revolutionizing the way manufacturer sites work.



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