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SafeSourcing e-Newsletter

Have comments, questions, or suggestions about the SafeSourcing e-Newsletter? Let us know what you think by emailing us at the following address. We look forward to hearing from you!

events@safesourcing.com

Trivia!

What is a Line Organization?

www.safesourcing.com

Industry News

Grocery News

Frozen Dinners Recalled

Boston Market boneless rib patty meals have been recalled due to customer complaints about glass and hard plastic materials found in the product. Bellisio Foods, based out of Ohio, was instructed by the USDA to recall their pork entrée products. This amounted to 173,376 pounds of pork that may be contaminated with extraneous material to be pulled back. The frozen dinner meals are packaged in a black cardboard box that read, "Boston Market Home Style Meals Boneless Pork Rib Shaped Patty with BBQ Sauce and Mashed Potatoes".

The affected product has "BEST BY" dates of: 12/07/2019, 01/04/2020, 01/24/2020, and 02/15/2020. There have been no reports of injuries or adverse reactions due to consumption of these products, reports the USDA. Customers are instructed to throw away any of these contaminated products or return them to the store where they were purchased. ■

Gabriella Khalaj, The Arizona Republic, 2/26/2016

Whole Food Prices Rise as Suppliers Urge Increases

Whole Foods has had to increase their prices in order to cover the rising cost of packaging, ingredients, and transaction costs on hundreds of their products. The Wall Street Journal shows that natural grocers have raised their prices from 10 cents to several dollars as suppliers...*Cont. 'd on page 2*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	Food Recall
2	Price Increases
2	Trivia! Answer

COMING NEXT ISSUE

Apr.	Answer to our Trivia!
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Recent Savings

Sauce Mixes

Savings were over 27% of total spend. ■

Spices

Savings were over 13% of total spend. ■

*Please [contact SafeSourcing](#) to schedule your RISK FREE event today.

Whole Food Prices (Cont.'d)

have boosted their prices due to growing costs. Due to the growing signs of inflation, retailers have in turn passed these costs on to the consumers. "Amazon.com Inc. cut prices after acquiring Whole Foods in 2017 to try to counter the grocer's high-cost reputation that earned it the nickname Whole Paycheck." Amazon Prime members receive discounts at Whole Foods, but membership price increased 20% to \$119 in April 2018. Even the e-commerce giant has limits when suppliers increase their costs. Whole Foods increased prices on such products as Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream to Dr. Bronner's soap products. There have been over 550 additional price increases listed in a December company email. Since that company email was released, more products have increased due to the expiration of annual contracts.

Proctor and Gamble and Clorox Co. have recently raised their prices to offset the increased costs of raw materials in order to boost their profits. A consulting firm, Acosta, reported 52 consumer-good manufacturers surveyed that nearly half of them raised their prices.

Supermarkets have resisted passing on these costs in order to intensify competition in the industry. Smart and Final Stores, Inc., a warehouse-style grocer has received pressure from hundreds of suppliers to raise their prices. Some supermarkets are carrying more store brands and new brands in different sizes that yield a larger profit. ■

Heather Haddon, 2/13/2019

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: How can I subscribe or unsubscribe to these newsletters?

A: You can subscribe or unsubscribe to these free newsletters by simply going to our [website](#), and clicking the option "e-Newsletter" or by contacting us directly at events@safesourcing.com

Q: I have run events in the past, is there any chance I could be saving more?

A: Yes. No matter when your past event ran, the team at SafeSourcing can find ways for your company to save.

Q: I want to know more about what SafeSourcing does. Who can I talk to about this?

A: You can contact a customer services representative by calling us at 1-888-261-9070 or by going to our [website](#) and trying our "Risk Free Trial" offer.

Kroger Makes a Bold Move to Entice Customers

For the first time, Kroger is seeking outside advertising agency help to oversee their marketing endeavors. They want their customers to know they are more than a local supermarket to pick up essentials. Recently, they have partnered with a driverless delivery service (Nuro), as well as entering a partnership with Walgreens in the US and Albiana, China. For years, Kroger invested in growth by buying competitors such as Harris Teeter and Fred Meyer, but they failed to transform their own business. In the past five years things have changed. When Amazon infiltrated the industry, grocers had to use other tactics to lure customers. It is predicted that 70% of shoppers will be buying groceries online within five to seven years, according to Nielsen. That is a \$100 billion sales opportunity. "So far some of Kroger's investments appear to have born results: shares of Kroger are up nearly 5 percent this year, giving it a market capitalization of \$23 billion. Its digital sales grew more than 60 percent the third quarter of 2018. But that growth came at a cost: its profit fell 20 percent." ■

Lauren Hirsch, CNBC, 2/26/2019

Trivia! From February 2019 Issue

What does Green-E Energy National Standard mean?

This The Green-E Energy National Standard is a standard developed by the Center for Resource Solutions for environmentally responsible energy as a consumer advocate in an industry that has no universally accepted standard for "green" certification. The organization describes itself as follows: "Green-e is the nation's leading independent consumer protection program for the sale of renewable energy and greenhouse gas reductions in the retail market. Green-e offers certification and verification of renewable energy and greenhouse gas mitigation products. It is a program of Center for Resource Solutions."

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