

Subject: March Industry Newsletter

Date: Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 12:05:41 PM Central Daylight Time

From: Chicagoland Food & Beverage Network

To: Tabetha Hawkins



A Letter from David Boulay, President of [IMEC](#)

As leaders in the food and beverage sector, you serve a vital role for our economy (jobs), our health (food quality), and our communities (food security and well-being). Through your membership with CFBN you represent a critical voice to advance the industry and your stakeholders. That's why IMEC is thrilled to join together with CFBN and you.

IMEC is a team of improvement specialists and technicians dedicated to providing organizations in Illinois with the tools and techniques to create competitive futures. The experienced hands-on team at IMEC works closely with our clients to plan critical business improvements in the areas of Leadership, Strategy, Customer, Operations, and Workforce. IMEC is engaging food and beverage manufacturers



around the Chicagoland area to help learn, shape, and share manufacturing best practices and promote organization-wide excellence.

We know that the CFBN members are a passionate group of innovative professionals, working to build a community within the food and beverage industry. Both of our organizations realize the deep value that food and beverage manufacturers provide to the greater Chicagoland area - from workforce opportunities to investments in the communities and neighborhoods that support these facilities and businesses.

To help with your efforts, we look forward to partnering with the CFBN to offer two events that dive into workforce development and engagement and manufacturing technologies and pathways to excellence. With both events, we hope to cultivate a larger conversation on how the companies in both our organizations are setting the pace for change, innovation, and industry leading practices. Details for our first event in May will be announced soon - so make sure to keep an eye and save the date!

We are also committed to engaging CFBN membership via industry events and our own offerings and knowledge base. Consider these events for your professional development, and find registration discounts via the [CFBN Member Perks program](#):

- [Complimentary attendance to the Pro Food Tech Conference](#), running March 26-28. We will have a booth at the conference, so stop by and say hello!
- [25% registration discount for the 2019 IMEC Conference on Enterprise Excellence](#), taking place in Naperville on March 27. This day-long conference brings together leaders from high-performing organizations, identifying small steps, best practices and strategies you can adopt now for a big organizational impact in the future.
- [2-for-1 registration for the Emerging Leaders Boot Camp](#) in Oak Brook on May 1-2. As you look across your team, are you ready to invest in your new and upcoming leaders, to help them transition to new roles? Strong leaders have a positive impact on the success of an organization, and the Emerging Leaders Boot Camp will teach communication and coaching skills for success.

I have a personal connection with the food and beverage industry. My career started out with fantastic experiences at companies like Frito-Lay and Pillsbury – I even worked as a plant sanitarian. And, our team is deeply passionate about our mission and to help drive competitive futures. We strongly believe that together our organizations have the tools, resources and partnerships to help food and beverage companies grow and flourish in Chicagoland.

At IMEC we work to cultivate strong relationships, and we see firsthand why networking is such an important aspect in fostering industry growth and cultivation. As a partner of CFBN, we truly look forward to the collaborating with their efforts and accomplishments as we seek to develop an innovative food & beverage ecosystem here in the region.



Sincerely,
David Boulay
President of [IMEC](#)

HOT TOPICS

How Cannabis Legalization is Changing Shopping Behavior

2018 was a historical year for cannabis. We saw firsts from a government perspective, with Canada becoming the second country, and first G7 nation, to legalize adult use cannabis, and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration approving the first cannabis-derived drug. Plus, we saw significant investments from a business perspective, especially from the alcoholic beverage industry. Constellation Brands (owner of Corona and Modelo beers) invested \$4 billion into Canopy Growth, a leading Canadian cannabis producer. Miller Coors partnered with The Hydro Apothecary to develop non-alcoholic, cannabis-infused beverages in Canada. In the U.S., Lagunitas Brewing Company became the first general market CPG company to launch a cannabis product with their introduction of Hi-Fi Hops.



Read more of this story, from our member [Aclara Research here](#).

Emerging Brand Positive Pretzels Leverages eFive Sensory Testing

Positive Pretzels™ markets their product as a healthier alternative, targeted at the “better for you” category. The goal was to have as few ingredients as possible and the best quality. Our member [Curion](#) and their [eFive sensory testing service](#) designed for emerging brands helped make this happen.



Click [here](#) for this story.

EVENTS

New Frontiers in Food: Network and Learn from European FoodTech Companies

March 20, 2019: 8:45 am - 11:00 am

Michigan Plaza Conference Center (Plaza Room), 205/225 N. Michigan



Ave., Chicago, IL



Join us as we host a large group of innovative European food and beverage companies for a morning networking event, to learn about the cutting edge technologies and companies emerging in the international market. With just three stops in the U.S. on their innovation tour - this is an opportunity you don't want to miss. CFBN is bringing global innovation, best practices and collaboration right to Chicago!

CFBN is offering Members free registration for this event - visit [Member Perks](#) to register with the discount code!

Register Now

Taste the Trends: Innovation Dine Around at Kitchen United

April 4, 2019: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Kitchen United, 820 N Orleans Street, Chicago, IL



Join us for a night of good cocktails and even better food from the talented chefs of the [Research Chefs Association](#) and the innovation kitchens of [Datassential](#). Taste the Trends is a hands-on, interactive event hosted in the brand-new kitchens of [Kitchen United](#)! Explore the kitchens, meet the chefs, and sample new culinary trends - giving you a true insider's perspective into the new forces that will revolutionize eating and drinking in the coming year.

****This is an in-demand event, so register early to save your spot!***

Register Now

Partner Events!

Good Food Expo 2019

March 22, 2019: 8:30 am - 7:00 pm ****CFBN will be on-site****

March 23, 2019: 10:00 am - 5:00pm

UIC Forum, 725 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, IL



Eat, meet and be thoughtful at FamilyFarmed's 15th Annual Good Food EXPO! The EXPO is the Midwest's premier annual event focused on locally and sustainably produced food. Attendees at the Good Food Trade Show on

Friday, March 22 and the Good Food Festival on March 23 will be informed, inspired — and most importantly FED — at the many chef demos, symposiums and panels featuring leading chefs, producers and experts from across the Good Food spectrum. **Member Discounts offered on our [Member Perks page!](#)*

Register Now

2019 PHA Summit (\$100 CFBN Member Discount Offered!)

April 1, 2019: 8:45 am - 11:00 am

April 2, 2019: 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

323 East Upper Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL



Did you miss our amazing conversation last week? Don't worry...PHA is coming back to town to bring together leaders from public health, academia, nonprofit and corporate America to build partnerships and leverage relationships—to facilitate and accelerate the market disruption and healthy innovation necessary to make nutritious food and safe play more accessible for every American family. At this year's event, we're bringing forward lessons learned from the world's most iconic brands, industry leaders, thinkers and doers with workshops and sessions that will spark ideas, ignite conversations and accelerate change. **Member Discount offered on our [Member Perks page!](#)*

Register Now

Industry Events!

- **3/19: Conversation Catalyst Series: The Proliferation of Plant Based Foods**, Presented by Network partner Healthy & Natural Chicagoland. Learn more about this event [here](#).
- **3/21: Scaling Up With a Co-Manufacturer: An Entrepreneur's Prospective**, Presented by Network partner The Hatchery. Learn more about this event [here](#).
- **3/22-3/23: Good Food Expo**, Presented by Network partner Family Farmed. Learn more about this event [here](#). *(*Member Discounts Offered)*
- **3/26-3/27: 2019 Clean Label Conference**, Presented by our member Global Food Forums. Learn more about this event [here](#). *(*Member Discount Offered)*
- **3/26-3/28: ProFood Tech**, Presented by PACK EXPO, Koelnmesse and the International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) Learn more about this event [here](#).

[here](#). (**FREE Member Access Offered*)

- **3/27-3/28: Trends and Innovations Seminar**, Presented by our member Sosland Publishing & Food Business News. Learn more about this event [here](#). (**Member Discount Offered*)
- **4/7-4/9: 2019 SFA Business Summit**, Presented by the Specialty Foods Association. Learn more about this event [here](#). (**Member Discount Offered*)
- **4/8-4/11: HPP Short Course and Workshop** Presented by our member IIT/IFSH. Learn more about this event [here](#). (**Member Discount Offered*)

Our food & beverage industry wide events [calendar](#) is updated regularly and 2019 promises to have an exciting roster of events!

NEWS

Industry Highlights

- Imbibe sent a team to Expo West to look for the hottest trends and most innovative products. Here's what they found! Click [here](#) for this story
- Mazars USA LLP is pleased to announce the results of the 2018 Food & Beverage Industry Study. The survey was conducted to identify and examine current practices and key trends. Click [here](#) for this story
- On Wednesday March 6th, we teamed up with our partners at PHA to talk about what it means to truly be health conscious in the food & beverage industry. Click [here](#) for this story

Have news? We regularly [post news](#) and updates from around the industry on our CFBN news - make sure to include them in your daily reading, and [drop us an email](#) if your company has any newsworthy updates!

CAREER CENTER

Check out new opportunities in the Chicagoland area!

Our members are always looking for talented candidates to fill positions within their organizations. We're here to connect you to those wonderful opportunities. Check out these latest postings from our members! And don't forget to [visit our full job site](#) for all of the current opportunities.

Contract Manufacturing Director - Kinsa Group



Responsibilities Include:

- High level capabilities/experience in negotiations, contracts and agreements
- Strong organizational and planning skills
- Project management
- Group management
- Travel required, 25-30%
- Self-starter who has the ability to work with little supervision
- Experience: 5+ years of related experience in food manufacturing

Take me to this job [post](#).

Logistics Coordinator - GlobalTranz



Responsibilities Include:

- Deliver multi-level operational support for GlobalTranz's client shipments and transportation through tracking & tracing activity (inbound/outbound phone calls and e-mails), ensuring on-time delivery and pick-up
- Clarify load requirements with carriers, confirming drivers have proper information (pick up & delivery requirements)
- Utilize and update tracking methods through the use of GlobalTranz's load management system to create efficiencies
- Provide support to the OS&D department by gathering detailed information from external carriers, customers, and internal representatives to quickly resolve shipment issues
- Handle client problems in accordance with GlobalTranz's standard operating procedures (SOP's) and escalate to appropriate business function as needed; maintain customer satisfaction and provide high quality service and work ethic while representing GlobalTranz

Take me to this job [post](#).

MEMBERSHIP

Say Hello To Our New Members!

Our network continues to grow! We are excited to welcome **Aclara, BCI, Jimmy's Vegan Cookies, Wellness Box** to our network, which includes over 100 corporate members and partners, and over 100 individual members (and counting). Thank you

for being a part of the organization!

	
	

CFBN Member Profile: John Carley with 5/3 Bank

The CFBN has proven to be a great networking resource for our group at Fifth Third Bank. Their team puts together numerous presentations throughout the year that appeal to companies of all sizes across the region. These events bring together several companies and individuals committed to the success of the food and beverage industry in Chicago. Alan has formed a very capable service oriented team around him and has recruited a unique cross section of industry participants to the network. The CFBN has consistently arranged relevant issue meetings/panel discussions covering diverse topics that have resulted in generating new contacts for the bank. The member only access to other CFBN connections is a great resource and I highly recommend the CFBN for anyone interested in broadening their reach into the Chicagoland Food and Beverage Community.



John is a supportive member of CFBN, thank you again for your well wishes!



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EDITOR

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For all inquiries, please contact newsletter@chicagolandfood.org

OUR MISSION

To drive inclusive economic growth in Chicagoland by bringing together the region's food and beverage industry stakeholders to pursue collaborative opportunities.

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