

Global Gazette

The latest news, updates, and announcements

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Quote of the Month:

*“Food is national
security. Food is craft.
Food is everything, when
you think about it.”
— José Andrés*



September: Food Waste Across the Supply Chain

Food waste is a pressing challenge across the food system, with nearly 40% of food in the U.S. going uneaten. In our recent workshop, employees reflected on how retailers, manufacturers, and consumers each play a role in shaping food waste. We sparked a thoughtful discussion about responsibility, accountability, and the industry players setting a higher standard with creative solutions like imperfect produce programs, surplus donations, and clearer labeling. Our team discussed where waste is most visible, from grocery stores to manufacturing plants, and how industry practices can shift to better support both sustainability and consumer needs. These conversations reminded us that food waste is not just an individual issue but a shared challenge across the system. To carry this forward, we directed our donation to [West Suburban Community Pantry](#), which provides nutritious food and essential resources to families in need while removing barriers to access across our local community. Their work ensures that more food reaches the tables of our neighbors who need it most, helping to reduce waste, fight hunger, and strengthen the community we all share.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage at Jewel-Osco



This September, we were excited to see several of our brands participating in Jewel-Osco's 18th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, a vibrant series of in-store events held across four locations in the Chicago area. From August 28 through September 20, the festivities included live music, kids' activities, product samplings, and interactive displays that brought Hispanic culture and community to life. Our brands — La Preferida, Charras, and Topo Chico — were proudly featured, engaging shoppers through creative presentations and tasting experiences.

These events were orchestrated by GT Universe, a valued partner, who created an interactive and festive atmosphere for the community. Our Promotions team supported the events by coordinating deals and advertisements with Jewel, helping ensure our brands were prominently showcased. We also want to recognize Cindy Muys, our Central Region Sales Manager, for her continued work building strong relationships with Jewel-Osco, which makes opportunities like this possible.

As part of their commitment to the community, Jewel-Osco made a charitable donation to St. Augustine College, a nonprofit providing accessible, high-quality higher education while promoting equitable opportunities for students. These celebrations reminded us that thoughtful partnerships, community connections, and cultural recognition can make a lasting impact.



Meeting Modern Shopper Expectations



The food industry continues to evolve rapidly, driven by shifting consumer preferences and emerging global flavors. Today's consumers, particularly Gen Z and Millennials, are digital-first, seeking convenience, personalization, and products that align with their values. Recent research from [Grocery Dive](#) highlights that these generations now account for over half the world's population, with Gen Z controlling \$450B in spending power. They are quick to try new brands, switch if they find better experiences, and increasingly make purchases during the week rather than saving for weekend hauls.

For brands, this means success requires anticipating consumer habits and understanding what drives loyalty before the retailer even defines it. Products that meet expectations for seamless omnichannel experiences, innovative offerings, and convenience are better positioned to capture attention and build lasting relationships. Grocery Dive reports that younger shoppers spend 70.8% more on weekdays than weekends, creating opportunities for brands to engage consumers during their regular shopping patterns. Brands that prioritize convenience, like Ricky Joy portable yogurt drinks, Wang with its ready-to-eat Korean snacks, or Palirria with its grab-and-go meals, exemplify how aligning product formats with these behaviors can capture incremental visits and basket growth.

Health-conscious and globally inspired flavors are also rising in importance. [The Specialty Food Association's 2025 Midyear Report](#) shows that menu items featuring unique ethnic flavors and clean ingredients are driving growth for both retailers and suppliers. Brands offering distinctive flavors and high-quality ingredients, such as Corfu's Roussas feta, Deep River chips, and Otto Nuts, demonstrate how meeting these evolving preferences can differentiate products in a crowded marketplace.

At Global, we partner with brands to translate these trends into action in the store. We help brands understand what consumers want, anticipate what retailers will prioritize, and position their products to succeed in both local and global markets. By connecting industry insights with on-the-ground strategies, we ensure our brands are ready to capture opportunity, stay relevant, and grow in an increasingly dynamic food landscape.

