

March 19, 2020



On March 19, 2020 the Department of Homeland Security in the United States issued guidance on the infrastructure industries and workers critical to fighting COVID-19.

[Click here to a PDF of the guidance](#)

[Click here to go to the CISA website](#)

Outlined below are the ways in which packaging manufacturers are defined as critical.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Food manufacturer employees and their supplier employees—to include those employed in food processing (packers, meat processing, cheese plants, milk plants, produce, etc.) facilities; livestock, poultry, seafood slaughter facilities; pet and animal feed processing facilities; human food facilities producing by-products for animal food; beverage production facilities; and **the production of food packaging.**

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

- **Manufacturers and distributors (to include service centers and related operations) of packaging materials, pallets, crates, containers, and other supplies needed to support manufacturing, packaging staging and distribution operations.**

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

- **Workers necessary for the manufacturing of materials and products needed for medical supply chains, transportation, energy, communications, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, emergency services, and the defense industrial base.**

CHEMICAL

- Workers supporting the safe transportation of chemicals, including those supporting tank truck cleaning facilities and **workers who manufacture packaging items.**
- Workers supporting the production of protective cleaning and medical solutions, personal protective equipment, **and packaging that prevents the contamination of food, water, medicine,** among others essential products.
- Workers who support the production and transportation of chlorine and alkali manufacturing, single-use plastics, **and packaging that prevents the contamination or supports the continued manufacture of food, water, medicine, and other essential products,** including glass container manufacturing.