MONEY+LIFE

STARBUCKS FACING SHORTAGES OF INGREDIENTS

Snagging your favorite Starbucks treat might be more difficult due to shortages of such ingredients as oat milk. When you open the Starbucks app, you’ll see a message warning of the absence of some menu options. “Due to current supply shortages, some of your favorites may be temporarily out of stock,” it reads. Starbucks spokesperson Sanja Gould said confirmed shortages will vary by store or market. The oat milk option has been temporarily pulled from some stores.

JBD CONFIRMS IT PAID $11M IN RANSOM TO HACKERS

The world’s largest meat processing company says it paid the equivalent of $11 million to hackers who broke into its computer system late last month. JBS SA said on May 31 that it was the victim of a ransomware attack, but Wednesday was the first time the U.S. division confirmed that it had paid the ransom. “We felt this decision had to be made to prevent any potential risk to our customers,” said Andre No- escreva, CEO of JBS USA. The FBI has attributed the attack to Russian-speaking gang NetWalker.

Can we still talk politics now that we’re back at the office?

Americans are increasingly avoiding conversations with people who aren’t like them, even in the workplace, where their economic livelihood depends on effective collaboration, research shows.

Brandon Bents, of Wichita, Kansas, sells tortillas to retailers. He wants to avoid talking about politics at work. “I was hoping for more unity after things open up,” he said.

And that’s how some people want it. “I was hoping for more unity after things open up,” says Brandon Bents, 38, of Wichita, Kansas. “It’s like, let’s all try to start fresh.”

But after the Donald Trump era and the divisive debate over mask mandates Americans against each other, he doesn’t want to talk about politics at work.

“My personal philosophy is I just don’t think there’s a place for it in most workplaces,” says Bents, who sells tortillas to grocery retailers. “He’s not alone. And employers are increasingly concerned about the impact of political debates in the workplace.

More than 4 in 10 human resource professionals say those restrictions.

One-third of employees at a software productivity company called Basecamp said they would resign after their CEO, Jason Fried, announced in April that

Can we still talk politics now that we’re back at the office?

Since the last time millions of American workers chatted around water coolers, the nation has gone through a pandemic, protests power ing a social justice movement, an election, an insurrection and two presidential impeachments.

And now many people are returning to the office, where these polarizing topics might come up in face-to-face conversations for the first time.

But how will we talk to each other in a productive and respectful way? Will we avoid it altogether? And could our deep divisions undermine the success of the companies we work for?

“Politics is not for all workplaces,” says Bents, who sells tortillas to grocery retailers. “He’s not alone. And employers are increasingly concerned about the impact of political debates in the workplace.

More than 4 in 30 human resource professionals say those restrictions.

One-third of employees at a software productivity company called Basecamp said they would resign after their CEO, Jason Fried, announced in April that
**Politics**

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Workers no longer would be allowed to engage in “societal and political discourse” in their private lives, and employers would require employees to “thoughtfully train” people to “establish the Applied Research Center recently partnered with #ListenFirst Coalition. “People are going to have to hear many points of view in the same room. On JetBlue’s website, the second line “Skip the (phone) line.”

‘Laser-focused’ on fixing this

Mandy Bayley and Theresa Russell talk during a workshop organized by Florida Today’s Civility Breeds Project through the nonprofit Braver Angels, which is working to depolarize the political conversation. The event took place at the University of Central Florida in Brevard West in Melbourne, Fla., CRASIS/JOE/DOD/DDI TODAY NETWORK

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**Airlines**

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In 2020, 44% of human resource professionals said they “will gesture.”

The calls coming in are too much, Taylor says. When you “actually listen to one another, you learn a lot of new things.” Taylor speculates that some potential solutions are going to happen around the list of frustrations as travel

George Floyd discussions

Workers in the travel industry are facing a range of challenges, including a lack of communication, a sense of silencing, and a desire to change the culture.

**Tips for travelers**

- Get basic information about travel restrictions, requirements and how to reorder your flights and reservations.
- Check for options to chat with the airline’s customer service via Instagram. Many airlines added these services in response to tweets and live chat or Apple Business Chat.
- When it’s offered, join the virtual call center. They can connect you to a representative who’s available to answer your questions.
- Avoid calling major airlines during peak times in the future, so that you can access the call center quicker.
- Call during off-peak hours. American Airlines suggests calling at 6 a.m. or 10 p.m.
- Avoid calling at the same times on social media, especially Twitter. They can overwhelm the call center.

'Ten laws: A freelance media consultant from State College, Pennsylvania, turned to Twitter after multiple waits on hold with United Airlines. He had booked a last-minute business trip to Hawaii and forgot he had to use a frequent flier gift card for the ticket.

Richard Dinkin, CEO of the Listen First Project.

A no-politics workplace?

Brentz, the Kansas worker, says that's the type of atmosphere he's looking for. He spent more than a decade when he worked for a company that no one said anything political.

My former boss, a great guy, would say, 'I don't have any idea what's going on out there.' He said he was a 'hardcore Trump supporter.' But he didn't say, 'I have no clue.'

I'm just looking for people that are willing to work, build a team and accomplish something together. That's what we get paid to do. But many advisors for bridge building between people say it's not possible to remove politics from the workplace.

Understand that these conversations happen around climate change or even political water cooler,” says Godwin. “Politics can just be unproductive or even palatable to some people.

Rather, bosses should establish a culture where the environment and even political language and terms can be used without addressing them as offensive or inflammatory.

In situations where the kind of posturing toward our co-workers is recorded, is expected, and an environment in which demeaning co-workers because of their gender, race or sexual orientation is expected, the organization’s culture is toxic and in need of change. In situations where the kind of posturing toward our co-workers is recorded, is expected, and the organization's culture is toxic and in need of change. In situations where the kind of posturing toward our co-workers is recorded, is expected, and an environment in which demeaning co-workers because of their gender, race or sexual orientation is expected, the organization's culture is toxic and in need of change.