

# COUNTER FORCED LABOR JOURNAL

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Educating corporations and corporate counsels on the business risks associated with human trafficking, forced labor, and modern slavery within supply chains, and promoting the adoption of counter-human trafficking corporate policies and adherence to human trafficking legislation and regulations.

**Counter Forced Labor Technologies** is a global compliance and advisory company that provides **on-site** assessments, improvement plans, training, research, and supply chain transparency required for corporations to combat human trafficking, forced labor, and modern slavery. We offer a wide array of services designed to help corporations understand intricate legislative policies and mitigate risk within their global supply chain.



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# Critical Care Required in the Coronavirus Supply Chain

**What is at stake, if our health  
and wellness are compromised?**

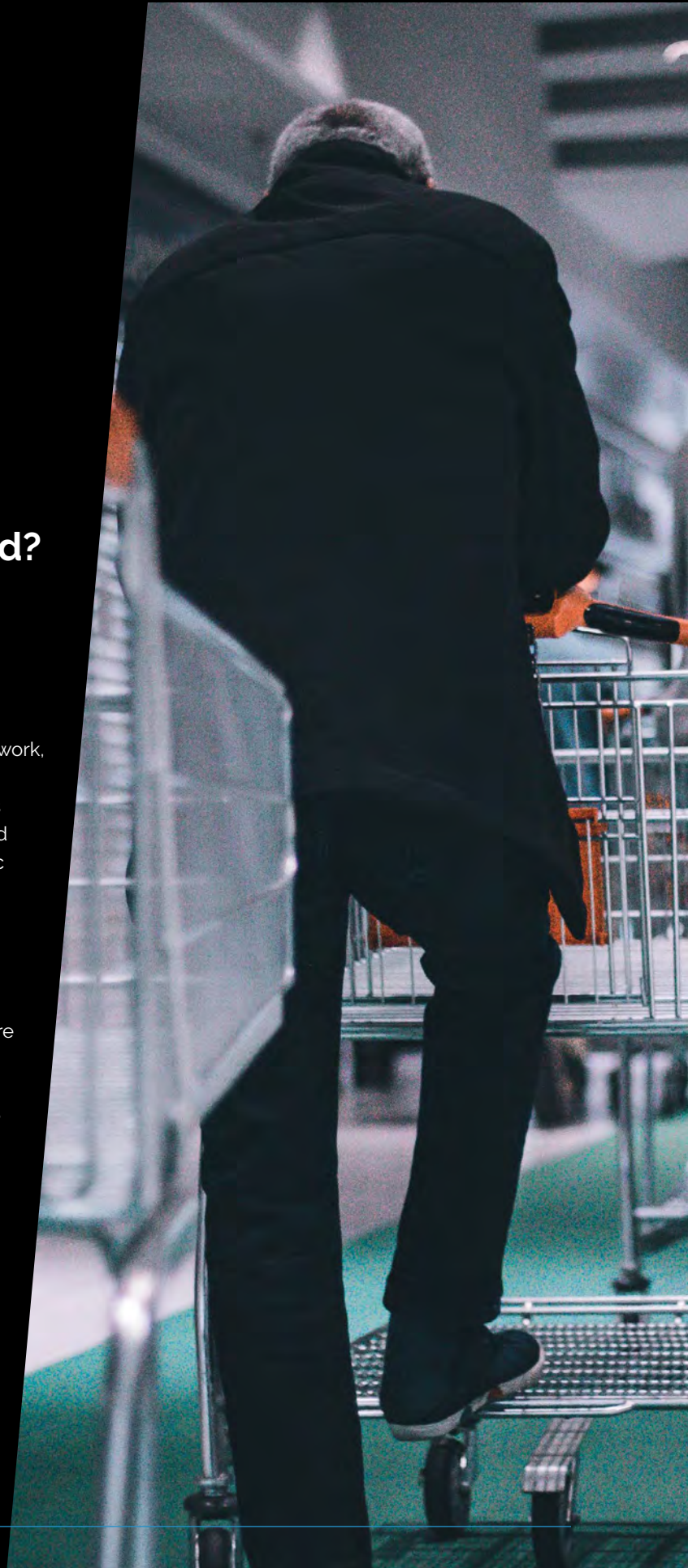
**A lot.**

We all work to live. But, if we cannot live to fulfill our duties for work, home, and life, then life as we know it ceases. The coronavirus has put the world as we know it, into a cautious and precarious panic. Life as we know it, for the present, has metamorphosized unknowingly due to the present circumstance of the pandemic and the strain put on the global supply chain.

U.S. companies operating in China expect the coronavirus to impact 2020 revenues, according to a recent announcement from The American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai. In the survey conducted in February 2020 by the chamber, there were 127 companies interviewed, "including 20 with China-sourced revenues of over \$500 million, and 27 with China revenues of \$100-\$500 million. And specifically, 87% of companies believe the coronavirus will have a direct impact on 2020 revenues; and 24% expect revenues to fall by 16% or more."<sup>1</sup>

While it is impossible to predict which companies or industries will be disrupted by the coronavirus and how they will be impacted, we can identify which industries may be at risk based upon various supply chain factors. Experience in the industry shows that those with low levels of inventory on hand and, in particular, smaller companies will be at the highest risk for infiltration of lack of supply due to the outbreak.

<sup>1</sup>AmCham Shanghai Coronavirus Impact Member Survey, AmCham Shanghai, February 7, 2020.





## Supply Chain Impact

The impact of the supply chain hits home, especially regarding purchasing of essentials during the COVID-19 crisis. "Grocery store shoppers are being met with empty store shelves not because there is a shortage of food, but because the nation's food supply chain is struggling to cope with either stockpiling by consumers or a slump in demand from restaurants, plus illness among workers due to the COVID-19 pandemic." Analysts state that due to schools, restaurants, and business' closures there is less demand. Yet, with most people staying home there has been an increase in grocery store supplies in order to cook and quarantine at home.

"The \$3 billion dollar food service industry has seen a sales decline of 60% to 90% due to COVID-19," according to Mark Allen of The International Food Service Distributors Association (IFDA).<sup>2</sup> "This supply chain wasn't made to swell like this, and now it's all an impediment because food is so cheap in this country and our supply chain is fragile."<sup>2</sup> Ultimately companies will have to quickly adapt with the changing landscape of supply and demand in the volatile market of today.

Even before the coronavirus pandemic, there were supply chain pressures caused by economics, according to the Supply Chain Dive Journal. Specifically, "margin pressures are intense, and manufacturers too quickly discontinue products that don't yield high enough margins without considering the ramifications or providing sufficient notice to customers."

"The COVID-19 pandemic offers a wake-up call to companies who have not taken risk assessment seriously." Mark Chockalingam, president of demand planning and forecasting consultancy at Valtitude, sees the current supply issues as a result of a lack of supply chain risk assessment. As an expert, Chockalingam, advised that companies should look at best-case and worst-case scenarios to guide decisions. And firms should be ready to invest in assessment and planning tools to mitigate future risk."<sup>3</sup>

Food and household essentials are not the only items that will see a push and pull strain on the supply chain. Technology and automobiles over the next fiscal quarter and beyond will be significantly impacted. According to a forecast by TrendForce research, the sales of smartwatches, computer monitors and televisions from manufacturers to retailers are expected to fall by millions of units in the first quarter of 2020 due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

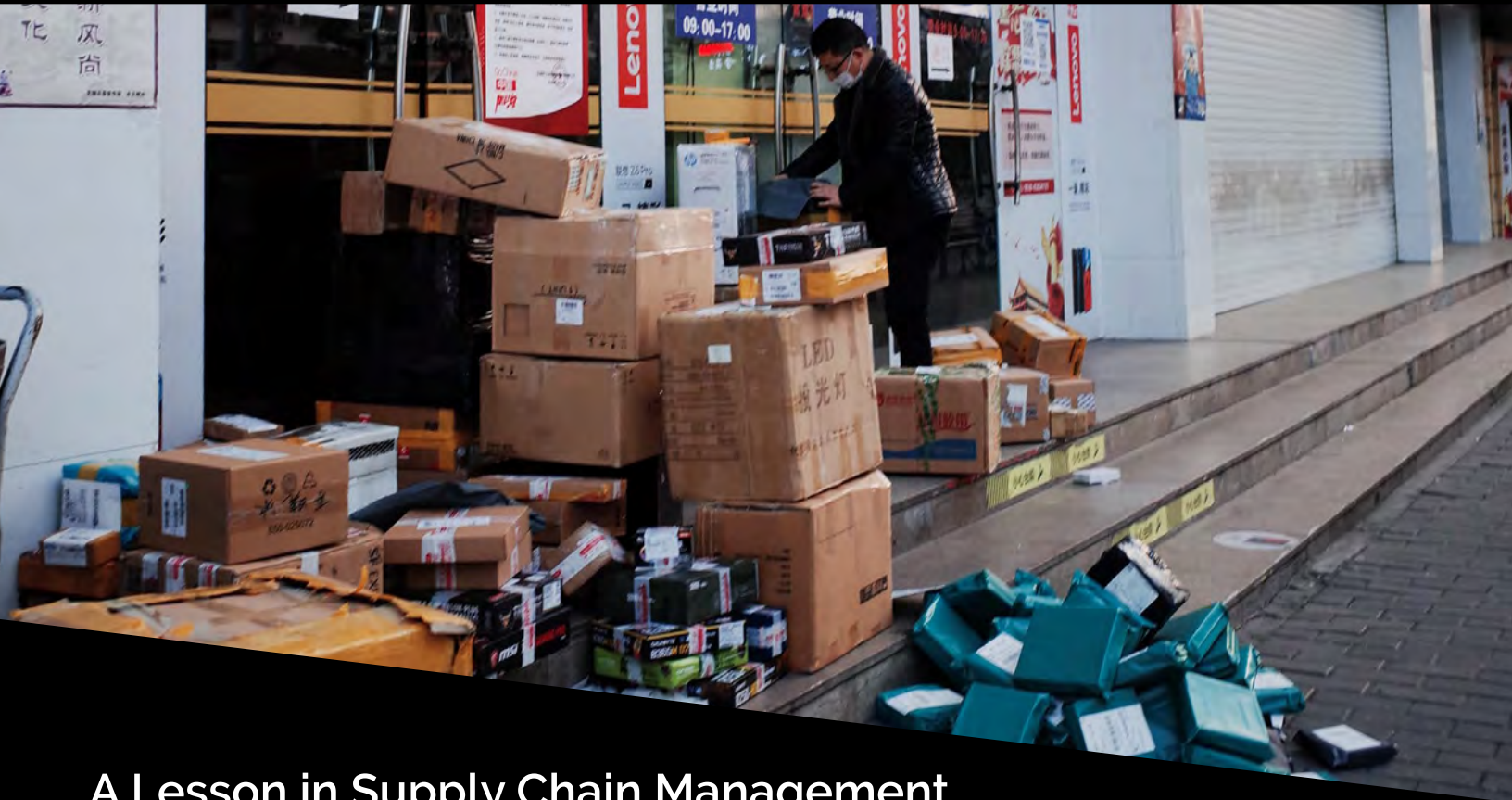
Additionally, the sale of automobiles is also expected to fall by more than 8% due to supply and demand disruption from the outbreak, according to the forecast.<sup>4</sup> "Meanwhile, China's technology supply chain remains at a near standstill. Key suppliers to Apple are straining to restart production of iPhones, iPads and other devices amid concerns that the coronavirus could spread through factories and the dormitories where thousands of workers live in close quarters."<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>We have plenty of food, so why are grocery store shelves empty? MSN, April 20, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Supply chains will survive the pandemic, but revised strategies may take hold, Supply Chain Dive, April 2, 2020.

<sup>3</sup>TrendForce Presents Comprehensive Analysis of COVID-19 Outbreak's Impact on Global High-Tech Industry, TrendForce, February 17, 2020.

<sup>4</sup>China struggles to return to business after extended break," Nikkei Asian Review, February 10, 2020.



## A Lesson in Supply Chain Management

Even though there have been multiple supply-chain upheavals inflicted by natural disasters, such as tsunamis, hurricanes, and tornados, most companies still find themselves unprepared, and the infliction of the coronavirus in the supply chain hasn't helped.

According to the Harvard Business Journal, "seventy percent of 300 corporate respondents in a survey conducted by Resilinc in February 2020, following the COVID-19 outbreak in China, said they were still in data collection and assessment mode, manually trying to identify which of their suppliers had a site in the specific locked-down regions of China. There are a number of reasons for this problem, and potential solutions."

Critical information needed for supply chain management is often times time available or accessible to companies from their global suppliers. And in return, the response to the disruption within the supply chain is reactive and uncoordinated, and the impact of the disaster or crisis will force companies to a breaking point.

As discussed in the Harvard Business Journal, human intelligence alone is not enough, but coupled with smart mapping supply chain technology a company can succeed

when crisis hits the supply chain via a natural disaster. In addition to this it is recommended that, "people from the procurement, logistics, and supply chain financing sections need to come together to talk about what key gaps (tools, information, people, processes, etc.) need to be fixed to protect the company from disruptive events in the future and how to align the goals of procurement with overall business objectives."<sup>6</sup>

Resilience in the supply chain requires a thorough understanding of your supply chain as well as knowing when a shortage might occur due to a simple or complicated disruption in demand. "Supply chain visibility and mapping must be adapted to integrate both supply and demand -and in 'black swan' events the traditional understanding of supply and demand can become entirely upended. If this occurs, ensuring continued operations become paramount."<sup>7</sup>

Essentially, the best thing that companies can do is simply know their supply chain risks, and then preemptively develop mitigation approaches via new supply management technology coupled with artificial intelligence. Likewise, increasing the levels of buffer inventory will mitigate long term risk.

<sup>6</sup>Coronavirus Is a Wake-Up Call for Supply Chain Management, Harvard Business Review, March 27, 2020.

<sup>7</sup>To prepare for the next 'black swan' event, supply chains should rethink 'lean' Supply Chain Dive, April 14, 2020.





# The Coronavirus Impact on the Current Slave Labor Market

A direct result of the effort to control the spread of coronavirus has brought about an increase in modern slavery since victims are vulnerable to environmental and economic factors. There has not only been a disruption to the fight against modern slavery, but also to the sectors of business that require specific labor in the manufacturing and textile industry.



## The Coronavirus Impact on the Current Slave Labor Market *Continued*

Specifically, the manufacturing sector is vulnerable to modern day slavery. Reports have estimated that slave labor in the manufacturing industry is the third most common sector where victims of forced labor are found in the private economy.<sup>1</sup> For example, with the increased demand for goods such as toilet paper, masks, and other manufactured goods it might be said that the impact of the virus has conceivably led to an increase in modern day slavery in the supply chain.

One might infer that there is a direct correlation between the coronavirus outbreak and increased production which requires a labor supply that is unmet and is replaced by slave labor. Production for certain items that must increase within a fragile supply chain, might in turn place an overt demand on the slave labor market. "The new coronavirus is shaping up to be an enormous stress test for globalization. As critical supply chains break down, and nations hoard medical supplies and rush to limit travel, the crisis is forcing a major re-evaluation of the interconnected global economy. Not only has globalization allowed for the rapid spread of contagious disease but it has fostered deep interdependence between firms and nations that makes them more vulnerable to unexpected shocks."<sup>2</sup>

Understanding global supply chain demand within the current pandemic requires evaluation. Moreover, China which is one of the world's primary hubs for supplying goods, and where the outbreak began, has brought about a dramatic impact on the global supply chain which has had a cascade effect on goods and services within the global economy. The quarantine measures in China's factories have caused a constriction on production within the regulated

<sup>1</sup>Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, International Labour Organization, 2017.

<sup>2</sup>Will the Coronavirus End Globalization as We Know It? Foreign Affairs, March 16, 2020.



labor market. And in order to meet the global demand for goods China has continued to use migrant workers. And, more so now with the pandemic, those of forced labor, specifically the Uighur Muslim minority which are in in forced "re-education" labor camps. "As China tries to repair an economy dented by the coronavirus outbreak, Uighur advocates are now worried that authorities are resuming job placements for Uighurs, moving them far from their families and homes. A report by the Australian Strategic Policy Institute alleges that authorities have transferred thousands of Uighur Muslims to work in factories producing goods for some of the world's biggest brands, while keeping them under close watch."<sup>3</sup> Moreover, it is likely that goods from China most likely are coming from sweat shops as well as from the Uighur camps, which are picking up the slack for the increased demand of supplies during the coronavirus quarantine.

The increased pressure for certain goods and quantities due to the coronavirus have invariably increased the demand for labor, and in turn slave labor unfortunately. The supply chain has been morphed into an unpredictable model with irregular orders, price pressures, high supply demands, all which lead to a squeeze for more workers, more hours, and more production. All of these factors combined lead to the plausible explosion and increase in exploitative labor.

In addition to the increase in demand for labor in the manufacturing industry, there has been an increase in demand in the agricultural industry as well. Agriculture can be a high-risk industry associated with slave labor since it involves labor intense, seasonal, and low-paid work. The nature of agriculture work is rural and in isolation, which is why it is hard to monitor and difficult to track undocumented migrant workers, and other types of labor, all of which are susceptible to exploitation.

For example, with the global pandemic of coronavirus, the agricultural goods and foods coming from Italy, which was hard hit, have most likely come from migrants working in the fields. With Italy's lock down, and a demand for agriculture, there has been a demand in the market which is unmet. And, if history is any indicator, then it is most likely that migrant workers from Africa residing in southern Italy, are the key for labor, slave labor, during this crucial

time of pandemic and increased agricultural supply. It was reported recently that these migrant workers are trapped in slavery in southern Italy on citrus and tomato farms. Slave labor of immigrant workers has been going on for years and the demand from supermarkets in the present pandemic does not help. "This isn't a comfortable message for supermarkets", said an ethical trade manager at Oxfam, a leading non-profit assisting refugees globally, "but in squeezing their suppliers so hard commercially that they can only make a profit by exploiting workers, supermarkets themselves are driving the conditions that can result in modern slavery in their supply chain."<sup>4</sup>

Hopefully the demand for labor and certain goods will shrink as the coronavirus' impact dwindles, which will alleviate the demand on forced labor. What is clear, is that modern slavery is not immune to the coronavirus pandemic and must be addressed.



<sup>3</sup>Coronavirus: Are China's Uighurs being put at risk? Aljazeera, May 18, 2020.

<sup>4</sup>Are your tinned tomatoes picked by slave labour? The Guardian, June 20, 2020.

# Depravity:

## The Coronavirus Impact on India's Sex Slave Market

The coronavirus pandemic has swept the world as a quiet disease and killer. Yet, amidst this is the depravity and tragedy of those caught in the sex slave industry of India. Sex trafficking and slavery **do not stop** due to a virus or a pandemic. Unfortunately, those caught in these dire straits are left helpless and abandoned.

Due to quarantine lockdowns around the world there has been a large impact on sex trafficking and human trafficking victims in India. They have not had a way to care for their basic needs such as food and water. Worse is that their destitution has put them furthermore into the prey of traffickers.

"Restrictions on movement during the coronavirus pandemic won't stop trafficking. Millions of people are still in captivity, and it's a common misconception that trafficking must involve crossing international borders."<sup>1</sup>

In a recent article that highlighted this current tragedy it was reported that the women and children during this crisis are **not able to receive any financial support**, even though the government in India is providing a monthly stipend in bank accounts, those who are working in the sex industry or trafficked into the industry cannot receive any financial aid due to the lack of their government documentation which would provide access to financial relief.<sup>2</sup>

"They have no food, they are starving. They live in tiny, windowless rooms with no fresh air. Many don't have access

**"They have no food, they are starving. They live in tiny, windowless rooms with no fresh air. Many don't have access to running water; sometimes, the choice is between paying water bills or a phone bill,"**

to running water; sometimes, the choice is between paying water bills or a phone bill," says Ruchira Gupta, founder of Apne Aap Women Worldwide, which works for the eradication of sex trafficking in India. "In cities like Delhi,

Mumbai and Kolkata, brothels are located in jam-packed red-light areas where social distancing is impossible. One road in Delhi alone has more than 3,000 sex workers housed in 80 small brothels. Kolkata's Sonagachi, which is referred to as Asia's largest red-light area, has between **8,000–10,000 sex workers**.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to the financial situation the hygiene is a major problem due to "limited access to running water, and as many as twenty people are sharing one bathroom. Brothels rarely have kitchens and women buy food from vendors. For these women, the lockdown has meant the loss of their entire ecosystem –rickshaw drivers, corner stores, and street carts."<sup>2</sup> Basic needs are unmet and those in the slave labor industry are truly victims.

"Few in the humanitarian sector appear to have anticipated the domino effect of exploitation that top-level experts assert the coronavirus has already kicked off—and that trafficking specialists are now scrambling to prevent across the globe.

<sup>1</sup>The Pandemic's Hidden Human Trafficking Crisis, Foreign Policy, April 30, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>They are starving: women in India's sex industry struggle for survival, The Guardian, April 29, 2020.





In interviews with a dozen members of the anti-trafficking community, each questioned whether NGOs on the front lines of the pandemic would be unable to handle an increase in trafficking—largely because **the majority of them had neglected the issue until now**.<sup>3</sup>

Forced labor and trafficking are not a new epidemic for India, and according to the U.S. State Department Report on Trafficking Persons, India has been given a Tier 2 Status, meaning that they have not yet met the minimum standards for elimination of trafficking, but are making efforts. As such, the report detailed that “over the past five years, India is a source, destination, and transit country for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking. Forced labor constitutes India’s largest trafficking problem; men, women, and children in debt bondage—sometimes inherited from previous generations—are forced to work in brick kilns, rice mills, embroidery factories, and agriculture. Thousands of unregulated work placement agencies reportedly lure adults and children under false promises of employment into sex trafficking or forced labor, including domestic servitude.”<sup>4</sup>

Furthermore, the State Department report stated that “experts estimate millions of women and children are victims of sex trafficking in India. Traffickers use false promises of employment or arrange sham marriages within India or Gulf states and subject women and girls to sex trafficking. In addition to traditional red-light districts, women and children

increasingly endure sex trafficking in small hotels, vehicles, huts, and private residences. Traffickers increasingly use websites, mobile applications, and online money transfers to facilitate commercial sex. Children continue to be subjected to sex trafficking in religious pilgrimage centers and by foreign travelers in tourist destinations.”<sup>4</sup>

There is not much hope for those who are on the outskirts of society such as those who are trafficked or in sex slave labor when there is no government support. “Sex workers don’t feature anywhere as a marginalized group. The government doesn’t want to accept that there’s prostitution in the country. It’s the elephant in the room.”<sup>5</sup> **Basic needs like water and food is at a minimum** and not available since this population has been told to quarantine. And for the moment the government and non-profit organizations cannot provide any basic assistance.

Now would be an **opportune moment** for the government to have a policy and plan to mitigate trafficking and slave labor in order to reduce not only the unhealthy unhygienic barrios that are housing prostitutes, but also to provide goods and assistance to those caught in the tragedy of slavery without the basic needs of food and water due to the coronavirus pandemic.

<sup>3</sup>The Pandemic’s Hidden Human Trafficking Crisis, Foreign Policy, April 30, 2020.

<sup>4</sup>2018 Trafficking in Persons Report: India, U.S. Department of State, 2018.

<sup>5</sup>They are starving: women in India’s sex industry struggle for survival, The Guardian, April 29, 2020.

Disaster Proof Remedy:

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# Diversify the Supply Chain

Natural or man-made disasters are inevitable in this day and age, let alone during the critical times of a pandemic. With this in mind, companies and organizations should be inclined to diversify their supply chain with a variety of vendor sourcing in order to remain resilient during a disaster.



**There** are different viewpoints on how a company should handle how many suppliers they should rely on for their materials, operations, and goods. It can be said that by working with a smaller group of vendors over a long period of time could consolidate and tighten the supply base and offer better prices, terms, and customer service.

Yet on the other hand, there is the viewpoint that buyers might rather work with a larger group of vendors, which could in turn provide more specific attention to the needs of the consumer, and would meet the companies needs at all times, as well as benefit the buyer and seller in the event of a shortage or disaster.

Likewise, it can be inferred that over time, most companies settle for a strategy that is in the middle of the two viewpoints discussed above. Relying on a limited group of vendors, which can deliver as needed, yet keep the large supplier on hand to provide a fill in as needed, might produce a reliable outcome. A drawback to this approach is that with the current economic trends, the fluctuation of the market, and with trade wars and tariffs, using a single source supplier can backfire, and leave a company at a loss for demand and supplies.

Whereas, in contrast if a company were to use a **multi-source strategy** approach it would provide more **reliability** and source availability. Companies could work to make sure they have the materials they need to make their own products or produce their products in order to gain traction with their multi-source approach.

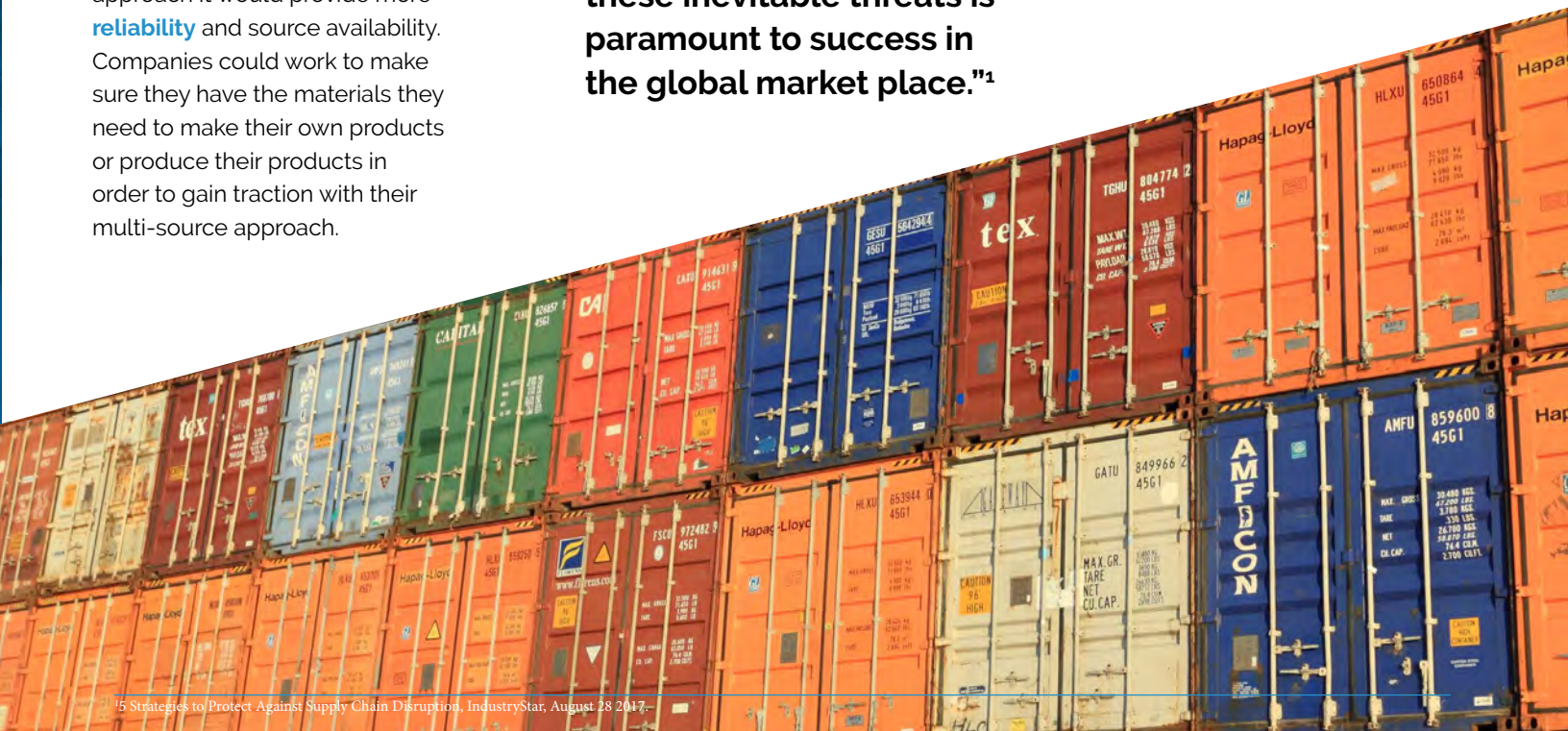
According to a leader in the analysis of supply management, IndustryStar, there are five main strategies that supply chain managers can use to combat a disruptive event:<sup>1</sup>

1. Stockpile Inventory
2. Diversify the Supply Base
3. Develop Backup Suppliers
4. Manage Product Demand
5. Strengthen the Core Supply Chain

Essentially, by applying one or a combination of these strategies will **produce the most effective and full proof supply chain** for a company to remain competitive as well as to endure sustainability.

**"Today's global supply chains are leaner and more dispersed than ever before, leaving them extremely vulnerable to operation risks and unpredictable disasters, both manmade and natural. Developing an effective risk mitigation strategy against these inevitable threats is paramount to success in the global market place."<sup>1</sup>**

When a company divides up the source of their supplies among different vendors and suppliers, they have the ability to protect against disruption which could be related to having an individual supplier. In today's volatile economy and with recent events, having merely a back-up supply of goods is not enough. An organization might divide up suppliers into one, two, or multiple sources. Not necessarily all the time, but having a back-up of suppliers is crucial in these times.



<sup>1</sup>5 Strategies to Protect Against Supply Chain Disruption, IndustryStar, August 28 2017.

By dividing up sourcing among multiple suppliers, it can be said that companies and organization might better protect themselves against supply disruption related to having just one single supplier. As stated earlier, having a back-up supply allows the supplier to confidently produce for their consumer. Citing to a leader in supply chain understanding, IndustryStar advises that a company should identify a back-up supplier and have an agreement should they need a reserve production capacity during a potential disruption.<sup>1</sup>

**"A diversified supply strategy, is cheaper...this is because cost is only incurred when the supply course is engaged during the disruption event."**<sup>1</sup>

How can the supply chain stay intact during a crisis? The old saying of "you shouldn't put all your eggs in one basket" rings true in this case, and in light of recent events this year, this saying hits to the core of every business, organization, and individual. But, in case one should choose, as a supplier, to put all their eggs in one basket, one vendor, or actually diversify your supply, what will your outcome produce?

A prominent consultant company which looks at supply strategy has said that **in order to win and pursue a single supply strategy a company should do the following:**<sup>2</sup>

1. Building and maintaining a relationship with one supplier is easier than with two or more
2. Administrative and other costs are reduced when you place orders with just one supplier
3. You can maximize volume leverage to attain attractive pricing
4. It's easier to streamline and integrate systems with a single supplier
5. You may be able to negotiate to receive small, frequent deliveries and to improve inventory control

In looking at the possibilities it appears to provide a logical solution. But, in order to diversify and have a disaster proof supply chain might it be a better choice to look at the possibilities of a multi-source supply chain?



And, according to a current supply chain strategy, if a company chooses **to do a multi-source supply, it would look like the following:**<sup>2</sup>

1. If one of your suppliers is bought by a competitor, or runs into financial or business difficulties, you have at least one supplier to fall back on.
2. While you may not have so much leverage with each supplier, there are opportunities to take advantage of competition between them, though this will depend to some extent, on your company's importance to each supplier.
3. Demand fluctuations can be more manageable if you have a choice of suppliers with whom to adjust order volumes.
4. Having two or more suppliers will increase your company's ability to circumvent supply disruptions

There are risks either way, whether a company puts all their eggs in one basket or has a diverse set of suppliers. But the main point is that companies must take that risk in order to grow and take on more customers and have eventual exponential business. Why? Reducing the supplier's dependence on your business will in turn introduce the risk of reduced service, standard, and possible a shortage. All of which do not produce a growth for the business, the supplier, or the consumer.

Today's supply chain is evolving quickly, whether it has to do with global trade wars or a natural disaster. Companies must stay abreast of the political trends, demands, and fluctuations in migration and the global market place in order to have integral systems in place. Having a long-term strategy for the supply chain requires **versatility and diversity**.

<sup>2</sup>Should You Choose a Single or Multiple Supplier Strategy? Dawson Consulting, October 5, 2018.



# Ask the Expert: Jaco Booyens

**Founder and CEO**, After Eden Pictures

**Director**, 8 Days Film

**Founder**, Jaco Booyens Ministry

**Falkirk Fellow of Liberty University**

Jaco Booyens is a native of South Africa and an American citizen. Jaco is a proud Fellow of the Falkirk Center at Liberty University, through which he contributes to advance society through Christian views and content supporting the moral goals of Liberty University. He is a diversified entrepreneur and is involved in several entities and industries. Jaco has a vast entertainment background with over twenty-five years of experience stretching across continents and cultures within the industry leading him to start After Eden Pictures (a film production studio) where he serves as Founder and CEO.

As the oldest brother of a sister who is a sex trafficking survivor Jaco turned abolitionist and produced and directed the feature film 8 DAYS, which his wife wrote as a non-profit, volunteer film, inspired by actual events of sex trafficking within in the United States. Jaco launched red carpet events to screen the film, bring awareness and donate proceeds to local anti-trafficking organizations within the USA, South Africa, Europe and the Dominican Republic. Children have been rescued, brothels were shut down and Jaco became a trusted voice in the anti sex trafficking community and a voice to liberate women worldwide with over 20 year's experience bringing awareness, influencing policy and fighting the crime. He has appeared on local, national and international Television and Radio shows including FOX Mark Levin (Life liberty & Levin), Fox Business Lou Dobbs, Fox National and regional, OAN, CBS, The "Steve Harvey" Show, news articles, Podcast and live streams etc. Jaco actively fights against child sex trafficking in the USA and globally, giving aid and linking with agencies such as the TSA, FBI, Police departments, CIA, ICE and Homeland Security SRT, Foreign agencies and over 65 NGO's in 56 countries around the world. Jaco is an international speaker and presenter on several humanitarian issues as well as serving on the non-profit boards of Traffick911 and SHAREtogether.

Jaco is a co-founder and BOD member of Eden Green Technology with the mission to feed the world and eradicate food deserts in the USA and abroad through a revolutionary vertical farming technology. Jaco has an educational background in Sports Medicine and had a professional athletic career in both South African Rugby and Canadian and American football.

Jaco's mission is to promote life by transforming culture through uplifting entertainment. Believing many of society's problems disappear when women are liberated, Jaco is currently published and working on two books with his wife and sister entitled: "It Starts With Women." and "SEX Nation" The book empowers women in the influence they have been given and commissions them to make a difference where they are at and in their callings as well as enlighten the reader in a deep dive into the dark world of child sex trafficking in the USA and the demand drivers to the crime. It also prepares the way for Jaco's next Television and film projects with After Eden Pictures, which are focused on further promoting life, protecting children, empowering women, addressing societal issues and transforming culture.

## Ask the Expert: Jaco Booyens

**As a prominent leader in the fight against human trafficking, what are the impending core issues that should be brought to the forefront for business leaders, politicians, the media, and the socially responsible global citizen?**

There are three core issues at hand presently that must be brought to the surface in order for us all as global citizens of change to have a recognized awareness for those caught in the plight of human trafficking.

First, is the issue of education awareness in our schools. Education is the key. The concern here is the type of education. Having fought the fight against human trafficking for over 25 years, we are losing the battle, hands down, due to the infiltration of the overt push for sex education in our schools. Which does not appear on the surface to be education, but more so a push for sexual guidance. Specifically, there is a large effort to normalize sexual morality in the U.S. public-school system, and parents don't know what their children are being taught. The curriculum titled, Comprehensive Sexual Education, CSE, demonstrates in the handbook that it's perfectly normal to be self-aware, with graphic illustrations in the curriculum. It is like a Darwinian mindset portrayed to middle schoolers, some who start learning at the young age of ten. Is that what you want your children to understand and learn? Yet, it's already being taught nationwide.

This type of education hyper sexualizes a young culture, to engage in activity online. This is a slippery slope to a pedophile. What is being seen as a trend is that kids are self-trafficking and are connecting with a buyer, and not even knowing they are being trafficked.

The second issue at hand lies within the technology companies in the U.S. Specifically, technology companies who are leading internet providers in social media and analytics are using their open borders of the internet, which are encrypted, to smuggle money and conduct trafficking through the internet. These large social media and technology companies are more recently using an end-to-end encryption, a level that is beyond military grade, which means that the government will have zero penetration to what they are influencing with their encryption. In the past, there has been a mutual understanding between the government and such companies for a filter and to abide by the norms; but this is not the case currently. Unfortunately,



the end user is becoming addicted to free child porn on these sites, as well as trafficking individuals, and all the while, can hide behind a social account and never be found. No one is talking about this. This is the new invisible line of increased volume in human trafficking - the internet. This is the true epidemic in our state of pandemic.

The last issue, and one is that is unknown, is that foster children are victims of child labor and sex trafficking. Recent statistics have indicated that 60% of foster children are being sexually assaulted, with roughly 30% of these children being trafficked. The average foster child moves ten times between various homes. Believe it or not, pedophiles are in the foster care system. The reality is that foster care provides a revolving door, since children can move within the system numerous times. There's no accountability. Having said that, it is a known fact that victims of sexual abuse don't identify themselves as victims and will not voice their own opinion for fear of their lives and livelihood.

**Given the ever-evolving current ways that human trafficking is taking place, what can be done to move the needle for change?**

Using the analogy of baseball, I would say that we as a country need to get on base and score runs, in order to move the needle on counter human trafficking. Moving the needle today means making laws against trafficking. But, making a law is an uphill battle. Yet, it is my hope that there will be a victory soon on counter human trafficking with the current administration.

At the moment, I am advocating for a federal law that will be able to track sex trafficking when it occurs and is written up by the police officer and first responders that respond to a call and are on the scene to rescue a victim. For example, right now if a police officer responds to a situation for a child, minor, or individual that is being sexually trafficked, whether it be in a motel room or a house, there is no specific code or write up that can register the event for what is occurring. Unfortunately, they can only log that the arrest was made for prostitution. Currently, a code or arrest term does not exist for sex trafficking. And as such, when trying to prosecute a pimp or pedophile, the judicial system cannot try the individual in court accordingly- or coded due to the arrest terms noted.

Why? First, because the account of the incident has not been accurately registered, and secondly because you don't have witnesses who can be put on the stand for something that is not recognized, and they have already been traumatized enough in that the logistics are overwhelming and not plausible to convict the perpetrator. Today there is NO code for "sex trafficking." Due to the current rules in the courts

regarding the police codes and the victim's who need to be present, almost always the case is settled out of court, and almost always the defense (the perpetrator) walks.

**Given the current rise in awareness to human trafficking in the last few years, are women and children still at risk to human trafficking or have conditions improved? What are the current statistics or important facts?**

The current statistics on human trafficking are staggering and not accurately reported in the U.S. At the moment, there truly are no accurate statistics on trafficking in the United States. Realistically, there are over 500,000 children per day that are sexually trafficked in the U.S. This is an epidemic of massive proportions. Yet this rising method of trafficking occurs online; and, the fastest method occurs in domestic families trafficking their own children. This method is increasing rapidly. As I discussed earlier, the largest amount of trafficking happens online or in foster families. It used to be that the trafficked kids were the run-away per say, or due to a kidnapping, but today it's a different story. The online trafficking can occur through social media outlets, or as simple as a family that is under financial tension, and in turn they sell their child for income. One child to a pimp, or a stranger, will produce \$250,000 a year, tax free. Tragedy meets opportunity unfortunately.

**From your viewpoint and research, how can organizations be more environmentally responsible to mitigate human trafficking within their supply chain?**

Multinational corporations, which will remain unnamed, and who produce a vast majority of our food and beverages that are sourced globally do not have internal checks and balances systems for child labor or human trafficking. Simply put, they do not have a way to track the details of their labor and intricacies in their supply chain. They need an advanced technology that can track and mitigate for error and provide solutions within their fragile supply chain. Keep in mind, there is not a single corporation that does not have this as an issue. Yet, this does not have to be an issue or even be complicated to navigate.

What if a tracking system could deliver the results needed on the level of understanding sourcing within the supply chain? What if there was a way to know about slave labor in the supply chain? We have the resources and the tools. Now is the time to use the tools in our toolbox. It's either black or white. You are either for it or against. Once you know the information, there is no grey area. Honestly, children and individuals of slave labor or sex trafficking don't get a choice. You get the choice. NO choice is A choice.

## South Korea Case Study:

# PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS & RESILIENCE





**The resiliency of a country**, and in this present time of a pandemic, the recovery of a country is paramount to economic sustainability. With the advent of the coronavirus pandemic, the global economy has come to a decline and most businesses have come to an abrupt halt. All the while, there has been an increased demand within the supply chain.

Having said that, South Korea has led the way on resilience, in order to sustain its supply chain and economy. Likewise, South Korea is distinct in that "health experts are noting that recently the nation has managed to significantly slow the number of new cases. And the country appears to have reigned in the outbreak without some of the strict lockdown strategies deployed elsewhere in the world." According to the head of the World Health Organization's Health and Emergency Program South Korea has "been able to make tactical decisions regarding, schools, movement in the country, and move forward without draconian measures."<sup>1</sup> Proactive preparedness with testing equated to a neutralized pandemic and success for their country. Essentially, **South Korea 'flattened the curve'** on the coronavirus pandemic because they were literally - ahead of the curve.

Early testing and detection are key. Early detection allows for a quick response as well as to isolate and treat those infected - in order to curb a pandemic. Both Hong Kong and Singapore have followed the same procedures and responses of South Korea which has brought about success to maintaining their businesses. In looking at a comprehensive response from Asia, all three countries, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Singapore have been able to keep restaurants, shopping centers, and factories open according to reports by a National Public Radio Research (NPR) article. The previous experience of mitigation to the SARS virus in these countries has shown that they are prepared and resilient.

The main way that South Korea 'flattened the curve' of coronavirus was **their swift action, widespread testing, and contract tracing with the support from their citizens**. And, in turn world leaders have applauded South Korea as 'the leader' on mitigation and prevention of the coronavirus, and there are lessons to be learned. It is important to understand the lessons learned<sup>2</sup> by South Korea's efforts to curb the virus as it can be an essential model for business leaders and organizations that want to protect the vitality of their workforce and supply chain.

<sup>1</sup>How South Korea Reined In The Outbreak Without Shutting Everything Down," NPR, March 26, 2020.

<sup>2</sup>Which Country Has Flattened the Curve for the Coronavirus? The New York Times, March 19, 2020.



# Lessons Learned from South Korea's Methods to 'Flatten the Curve' of Coronavirus<sup>3</sup>

## 1 Quick Intervention

South Korea kept a finger on the pulse, to the beat of the coronavirus outbreak, which essentially translated into real time results. As such, they were immediately developing test kits for production, tracking cases throughout technologically advanced apps, as well as working closely with businesses and hospitals to mitigate the pandemic from the onset. "Within a few weeks of confirmed cases thousands of test kits were shipped daily. According to sources, South Korea produces 100,000 kits per day and exports to over seventeen foreign governments...South Koreans, unlike Europeans and Americans, were also primed to treat coronavirus as a national emergency."<sup>2</sup>



## 2 Frequent Testing

South Korea is still testing one million people a day and they have created the idea of bringing social good to society and business by frequent testing and transparent reporting, according to experts at The Asia Foundation.

South Korea has demonstrated that by opening up multiple remote testing centers and mobile medical testing centers that it would free up hospitals from having a surge impact. Drive thru stations spared patients and health workers from direct contact, and provided efficiency and quick response times. One novel approach taken by the country was the use of thermal image cameras to identify people with fevers at offices, hotels, and other large gatherings, which provided rapid responses to curb the virus.<sup>3</sup>

## 3 Surveillance Tracking and Isolation

One the primary tools used to mitigate and harness the coronavirus in South Korea was their use of real time surveillance tracking. Which at first glance might seem constricting to one's freedom and privacy, but the citizens of South Korea have accepted a loss of privacy for the trade-off of safety and health.

For example, one novel technological tool used during the pandemic which provided real time results is the Real Time Corona Map Tracing, which provided immediate mapping and tracing of current coronavirus cases in South Korea. "When someone tests positive, health workers retrace the patient's recent movements to find, test; and, if necessary, isolate anyone the person may have had contact with, a process known as contact tracing.

<sup>3</sup>Which Country Has Flattened the Curve for the Coronavirus? The New York Times, March 19, 2020.



South Koreans' cellphones vibrate with emergency alerts whenever new cases are discovered in their districts. Websites and smartphone apps detail hour-by-hour, sometimes minute-by-minute, timelines of infected people's travel - which buses they took, when and where they got on and off, even whether they were wearing masks. South Korea has used data from surveillance cameras, cellphones and credit card transactions to map the social connections of suspected cases."<sup>4</sup>

## 4 Request the Public's Assistance

Relying on the government and health care workers alone to solve the dilemma of a pandemic have proven to be insufficient. Hence, it makes sense that each person can be watchful and prepared to mitigate the coronavirus. And in tune with this thought process, the South Korean directive asked that citizens be vigilant and responsible with their health and reporting.

"Relentless public messaging urges South Koreans to seek testing if they or someone they know develop symptoms. Visitors from abroad are required to download a smartphone app that guides them through self-checks for symptoms."<sup>4</sup> A practice of proactiveness has been instilled in South Korea and has benefited the country in return.



## Proactive Preparedness Strengthens Resilience in the Supply Chain

The global economy is fragile. South Korea has provided a good model of resilience in a time of crisis via proactive preparedness during a pandemic. Why is this model critically important to understand? If a business, organization, or country is to succeed or simply withstand a critical crisis or turn of events within the landscape of volatility within the economies of scale, **then it is of utmost importance to be strategically prepared to sustain their supply chain within an interconnected global economy.**

<sup>4</sup>How South Korea Reined In The Outbreak Without Shutting Everything Down, NPR, March 26, 2020.



# KNOW WHO YOU DO BUSINESS WITH

The Counter Forced Labor Journal is published by the Counter Forced Labor Technologies Intel Team, which is composed of tenured military and business analysts with intimate knowledge and direct experience dealing with human trafficking, forced labor and modern slavery.

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We welcome feedback and suggestions for articles in future issues.

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