



## FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

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### Special Reporting Service

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### *Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily*

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#### G2E CANCELED

The gaming industry's largest event, Global Gaming Expo, has canceled its show that was set for October in Las Vegas.

The show, owned by the American Gaming Association and Reed Exhibits, is planning networking, education and economic opportunities through virtual G2E events throughout the rest of the year.

The show typically attracts 30,000 attendees.

"The ongoing pandemic makes this the prudent decision ahead of critical deadlines for exhibitors planning to participate," AGA CEO Bill Miller said.

G2E will take place next year on October 4–7.

Elsewhere, the National Hardware Show, scheduled for September 1–3, has also been canceled.

That show attracted 37,000 attendees last year.

## PENNSYLVANIA TO OPEN CASINO BIDDING

Pennsylvania will once again open satellite casino auctions in September in an attempt to bring in tax revenues lost due to COVID-19, AP reported.

State casino operators will be allowed to bid on the satellite casino licenses, which permit up to 750 slots and 40 table games.

Four satellite licenses were awarded in the first round of licensing last year.

Elsewhere, the state gaming control board has banned smoking in casinos to adhere to new state protocols. The decision has minimal effect as casinos had prohibited smoking, anyway.

## NEVADA CASINO LOANS, LAYOFFS

Nevada casino resorts received \$42 million to \$98 million while casinos without hotels received \$32 million to \$72 million under a \$4 billion federal rescue package for Nevada businesses, Associated Press reported.

Casablanca-owner RBG, casino operator NG Washington II and Waldorf Astoria-owner CCLV Luxury Hotel Holding received \$5 million to \$10 million each.

At the same time, widespread layoffs are happening for furloughed casino employees in Las Vegas, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

Penn National will lay off an undisclosed number of furloughed workers at Tropicana and M Resort by August 15.

Penn announced layoffs for Ohio properties last month. The company furloughed 26,000 staff members in April, although a significant number have returned to reopened facilities, a spokesman said.

Phil Ruffin's Treasure Island sent a notice that 414 employees could be laid off effective August 14.

Meruelo's Sahara Las Vegas announced it could lay off an undisclosed number of employees starting in September.

## RHODE ISLAND TO CONSIDER REMOTE REGISTRATION

Legislation was introduced to boost sports betting participation during the pandemic by allowing remote registration, WPRI-TV reported.

The bill to eliminate the requirement for in-person registration at one of two Twin River casinos is sponsored by House Speaker Nicholas Mattiello and House Finance Committee Chair Marvin Abney.

Senate President Dominick Ruggiero will introduce a companion bill.

## US CASINOS: ENCOURAGING MAY

US casinos had encouraging results in May, with newly reopened states generating average daily gaming revenue near or above last May's results, according to Fantini's National Revenue Report.

Full-month revenue fell 95.06 percent to \$177.087 million.

iGaming revenue nearly tripled to \$142.914 million in the absence of land-based gaming options and a lack of sports to bet on.

Details are in the 120-page National Revenue Report available from Alex Capitle at 302 730 3793 or [ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com).

## COMPANIES: SGR

- STAR ENTERTAINMENT's Gold Coast casino plans to lure Australian high rollers in the absence of tourists in light of COVID-19, Executive of Operations Geoff Hogg said to ABC Gold Coast.

International closures will have a major negative impact on the Star Gold Coast, he said.

However, the casino was busy when it opened its doors Friday, Hogg said.

## STEPS BACK: ID

- IDAHO. The Shoshone-Bannock casino floor reopened Wednesday after closing Monday due to an employee testing positive for COVID-19.

The hotel has remained open.

US: CA, US

- CALIFORNIA. Employees at Thunder Valley casino say the casino should not be open with the current COVID-19 protocols, KXTV-TV reported.

The employees say that facemask use is not being enforced and that dealers have been asked to not use hand sanitizer in order to preserve playing cards.

- UNITED STATES. Hotels continue to recover slowly.

RevPAR fell 44.8 percent for the week ended July 4, according to Smith Travel Research.

That beat the prior week's 56.5 percent drop and the quarter-to-date's 70 percent decline.

## FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

Don't let the cancellations of trade shows stop you from getting your products seen. Now is the time to turn to our virtual show where you can display and advertise all your products, video demos and news events too. Become an exhibitor today by contacting Dee Wild-Shyver at [DWild@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:DWild@FantiniResearch.com).

Visit the trade show at [www.FantinisGamingShow.com](http://www.FantinisGamingShow.com).

## CONVENTIONS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES, EXPOS

Shows and conferences have been canceled or postponed, due to the coronavirus outbreak. As new dates become available or for those that transition to online, they will be listed in our calendar at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/conventions.html>.

## **ABOUT THIS REPORT:**

*In Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily report we consolidate all developments about the virus that have business and investment implications for the gaming industry. We will post them on our website until further notice. Fantini's COVID-19 Gaming Daily is a Special Report that is included with all levels of Fantini's Gaming Report subscriptions.*

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