



## FANTINI'S GAMING REPORT®

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### Special Reporting Service

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**NOTE:** *As casinos are making plans and reopening we welcome all news and developments for these and anything COVID-19 related. Send your news releases to us at [Editor@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:Editor@FantiniResearch.com). In addition, you may reach Editor Blake Weishaar at [BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:BWeishaar@FantiniResearch.com) or by phone at +1 302 730 3793.*

**NOTE 2:** A map of state-by-state gaming statuses and a list of major casino re-openings, is at <https://www.fantiniresearch.com/gaming/fantini-s-covid-19-gaming-daily.html>.

### MORE OPENING LINES

There was a line of customers around Penn National's Hollywood Casino in Kansas City, Kansas, prior to reopening Monday, KCTV reported.

The casino currently offers only slots that are spaced apart. Poker and table games will open at a later date.

Likewise, Odawa casino in Mackinaw City, Michigan, had lines waiting for its opening on Tuesday, WGTU-TV reported.

Some customers had to wait for others to leave as the casino has capacity limits.

## UK BETTING SHOPS AND OTHERS TO OPEN

United Kingdom betting shops can reopen on June 15, just one day prior to the Royal Ascot race on June 16.

However, that date could be pushed back if the number of COVID-19 infections rise.

Elsewhere:

- ARIZONA. All four Desert Diamond casinos will reopen on June 5.
- CALIFORNIA. Thunder Valley casino in Lincoln will reopen on June 8 with social distancing measures. Customers must wear masks and have temperatures taken.

Tachi Palace will reopen Thursday.

- FINLAND's state-owned gaming operator Veikkaus is resuming raffle draws on June 1.
- IOWA casinos can reopen June 1 at 50 percent capacity and with social distancing measures.
- IRELAND betting shops reopen June 29.
- KANGWON LAND will reopen its namesake casinos in South Korea on Thursday.

## COMPANIES: AGYS, BYD, INCREDIBLE, TACT, UNIVERSAL

- AGILYSYS. The hotel software provider launched services for mobile ordering, guest self-service, mobile check-in and check-out, digital keys and contactless payment methods to help customers operate safely.

- BOYD GAMING is furloughing 1,500 staff at each of its Ameristar Kansas City and Ameristar St. Charles properties.

The furloughs represent 60 percent of each casinos' workforce.

- INCREDIBLE TECHNOLOGIES released slot machine bank spacing tool Universal Jumbo Edge, which has single-wide and double-wide screens.

- TRANSACT launched sanitization tracking system Epicentral Clean2Play that monitors the cleaning of slot machines in casinos by detecting when a play session ends and dispatching staff to sanitize.

"Clean2Play is an inexpensive solution to help get our casinos open while addressing the need to clean slot machines after use," CEO Bart Shuldman said.

“We are trying to help get our industry back and we will work with both regulators and casinos to show how simple and elegant and helpful this system will be,” he added.

- UNIVERSAL ENTERTAINMENT is laying off more than 1,000 employees at Okada Manila in the Philippines.

Not having revenue since getting locked down in March has been financially draining and has caused severe losses, property President Takashi Oya said.

#### US: NV

- NEVADA’s healthcare system can take care of casino visitors and staff if cases of COVID-19 rise, Las Vegas’ University Medical Center CEO Mason Van Houweling told gaming regulators.

Ten non-gaming hotels in southern Nevada have agreed to hold positively tested visitors in quarantine for 14 days, with the names of those individuals to be provided to casino operators.

Nevada’s casinos are expected to reopen on June 4 and could be at 50 percent capacity or less.

Gov. Sisolak was to hold a press conference this evening to announce reopening plans, however, he has canceled that on a precautionary basis and will instead release a pre-recorded video of his decision.

#### INTERNATIONAL: CHINA, ITALY, NZ, SPAIN, SWEDEN

- CHINA lottery sales dropped 35 percent to US\$3.3 billion in April.

However, that was the third straight sequential improvement after February brought in just \$141,000 and March \$1.5 billion.

Sports Lottery declined 42 percent to \$1.6 billion while Welfare Lottery fell 27 percent to \$1.7 billion.

Year-to-date sales are down 57 percent to \$8.6 billion through April.

- ITALY is soon introducing a 0.5 percent tax on sports betting handle in an effort to fund the recovery of sports following the shutdowns related to COVID-19.

The tax aims to raise €40 million this year and €50 million next year and will be withdrawn after raising the full €90 million.

- NEW ZEALAND’s Racing Industry Transition Agency, which oversees horse racing, is laying off 230 employees which is 30 percent of its staff.

The layoffs are intended to save more than US\$6.6 million annually.

- SPAIN. Gambling regulator Dirección General de Ordenación de Juego is directing gambling venues to remain closed despite the government allowing many retail outlets to reopen.

- SWEDEN. Horse racing and sports betting are being exempted from a \$495 weekly deposit limit, which will apply only to online casino games.

Minister for Social Security Ardalan Shekarabi says online casinos put players at greater risk of problem gambling.

Restrictions will go into effect July 2 through year-end.

## SOCIAL REVENUE BELOW ESTIMATES

Social casino revenues for the first quarter rose 10.2 percent to \$1.51 billion, beating his 9.9 percent estimate, Adam Krejcik of Eilers & Krejcik Gaming said.

That was due to higher than expected social gaming revenues, boosted by 12.9 percent mobile revenue growth. Facebook and online revenues fell 3.1 percent.

Trailing 12-month social casino revenues are estimated to have grown 8.3 percent to \$5.73 billion.

The 24-page First Quarter Social Casino Tracker Recap is available from Alex Capitle at [ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:ACapitle@FantiniResearch.com) or +1 302 730 3793.

## FANTINI'S VIRTUAL TRADE SHOW

As COVID-19 has caused the cancellation of many trade shows, now is the time to turn to a virtual show to display and advertise all your product lines and news events too. To exhibit your company, contact Dee Wild-Shyver at [DWild@FantiniResearch.com](mailto:DWild@FantiniResearch.com).

See products, demos, and news from exhibitors 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 webinars, they will be listed in our online 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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