

March 2016

Online Grocery Retailing - UK

“The online grocery market continues to grow in double digits but remains a niche market in terms of the wider grocery market. However, the shift away from superstores to more convenient shopping channels is certainly benefiting the market.”

– Nick Carroll, Retail Analyst

Biscuits, Cookies and Crackers - UK

“While the majority of people are concerned about sugar, sales of sweet biscuits are holding up well. With consumers likely to become more focused on portion control due to concerns about sugar though, smaller-sized convenience products and mini packs that also cater better for on-the-go snacking are likely to become ...

Specialist Food and Drink Retailers - UK

“The trend towards convenience shopping is driving footfall back into towns and cities where the specialists tend to be located, but with this comes additional competition from c-stores, discounters and online. While e-commerce isn’t the answer for many specialists, increasing use of technology to engage with customers and improved convenience ...

February 2016

World Cuisines - UK

“Core product categories in established cuisines are struggling. The robust consumer interest in ethnic spice kits suggests that more deconstructed formats can allow operators to tap into the scratch cooking trend. With a broad interest in trying new ethnic food, emerging cuisines will be key areas for new product development ...

Attitudes towards Healthy Eating - UK

Cakes and Cake Bars - UK

“Opportunities are ripe for operators to explore healthier formulations, with significant unmet demand for such products. In this context, superfood ingredients –including ancient grains, coconut oil and vegetables – can play an important role, tapping the current focus on ‘positive nutrition’.

Consumer Snacking - UK

“Snacking is almost universal. 95% of UK adults have snacked in December 2015, down from 97% a year prior. Usage is down in all categories bar savoury biscuits.

Pasta, Rice and Noodles - UK

“Health concerns, in particular around carbohydrates, are likely to continue to dog the category in the immediate future. Brands and retailers should look therefore to innovation in healthier options such as low-carbohydrate, low-calorie or added-functionality in order to tackle consumers’ fears head-on.”

“Working against light/diet foods is a mentality, where the focus is not on cutting out the ‘bad’ ingredients (fat/sugar), but on eating highly nutritious food to boost your health. As such, products which place a strong emphasis on their nutritional excellence are likely to chime among many consumers ...

January 2016

Food Packaging Trends - UK

“Packaging concepts which disrupt the norm and offer an alternative to the homogeneity of the mass-market food market resonate with many young consumers. Here, both unique packaging designs and customisation can win favour, lending even large brands a personal feel.”

– **Emma Clifford, Senior Food and Drink Analyst**

Crisps, Savoury Snacks and Nuts - UK

“Despite the obesity crisis and the large swathes of the UK population trying to lose weight, UK adults have a rather relaxed attitude to crisps, with 82% agreeing that they are fine to eat as an occasional treat and more than six in ten eating them once a week.

Free-from Foods - UK

“The ‘health halo’ of free-from foods is a key driver of uptake, opening up a pool of opportunity beyond actual or suspected allergy or intolerance sufferers. However, it also leaves the market exposed to the vagaries of consumer opinion. The importance of health in driving uptake also means that companies ...

Cooking Sauces, Pasta Sauces and Stocks - UK

“Brands and retailers in cooking sauces need to target those interested in home cooking, especially those wanting to add their own personal touch and an element of creativity to dishes, as well as people looking for quick and easy meal options when they need them. A focus on authenticity, improved ...