

Krispy Kreme Deserts McDonald's

Partnership to sell treats at chain failed to help doughnut maker's bottom line

By Connor Hart

Krispy Kreme said it would no longer sell its doughnuts at McDonald's restaurants, as the partnership wasn't helping the doughnut maker's bottom line.

Chief Executive Josh Charlesworth said Tuesday that the company initially partnered closely with the burger chain to bring its products to about 2,400 McDonald's restaurants across the U.S.

"Ultimately, efforts to bring our costs in line with unit demand were unsuccessful, making the partnership unsustainable for us," he said.

Krispy Kreme unveiled its partnership with McDonald's last year, as the Charlotte, N.C., chain aimed to make its doughnuts available in more places and become a national brand.

Last month, however, the company said it was reassessing the partnership's deployment schedule while it worked to achieve a profitable business model for both parties.



Krispy Kreme unveiled its partnership with McDonald's last year, aiming to make its doughnuts available in more places.

The disclosure came as Krispy Kreme withdrew its outlook for the year and said it would stop paying a quarterly dividend, exercising a more cautious approach amid an uncertain economic climate.

Krispy Kreme said it would now focus on driving sustain-

able growth by making its doughnuts available in more high-volume retail locations and capital-light international franchise growth.

Its doughnuts represented a small, nonmaterial part of McDonald's breakfast business, according to Krispy Kreme and McDonald's.

The Chicago-based fast-food giant noted that breakfast remained a core pillar of its business strategy, and that it would continue to focus on providing affordable and convenient breakfast options to customers.

"We had strong collaboration with Krispy Kreme and

they delivered a great, high-quality product for us," said Alyssa Buetikofer, McDonald's USA chief marketing and customer experience officer.

She noted that while the partnership met McDonald's expectations, "this needed to be a profitable business model for Krispy Kreme as well."

Job-Search Platform Sets Sales, Files for Bankruptcy

By Soma Biswas

CareerBuilder + Monster filed for bankruptcy Tuesday with plans to sell various business lines to different buyers.

The Apollo Global Management-backed company, once one of the leading job-search platforms, said it reached a deal to sell its job-board business to JobGet. Monster media properties, which include Fastweb.com and Military.com, would be sold to Valnet. And Monster Government Services, which provides software to state and local governments, would be sold to Valsoft.

CareerBuilder is actively cutting costs across its U.S. businesses and evaluating strategic options for certain international divisions, the company said.

"Like many others in the industry, our business has been affected by a challenging and uncertain macroeconomic environment," Jeff Furman, chief executive of CareerBuilder, said.

JobGet, Valnet and Valsoft will serve as stalking-horse, or lead, bidders in a court-supervised sale process, subject to higher and better offers.

The company is finalizing a \$20 million loan from Blue Torch Capital to help finance its chapter 11.

CareerBuilder said it plans to pay its vendors to its U.S. businesses in full in the normal course during its bankruptcy proceedings.

Last year Randstad NV, the world's largest employment agency, formed a joint venture between its Monster job board business and Apollo portfolio company CareerBuilder.

FedEx Posts Profit Growth, Subdued Outlook

By Katherine Hamilton

FedEx had a higher top and bottom line in the fiscal fourth quarter, but shared a mixed outlook for the current quarter amid tariff and inflation challenges.

The package-shipping company on Tuesday posted a profit of \$1.65 billion, or \$6.88 a share, in the quarter ended May 31, compared with \$1.47 billion, or \$5.94 a share, a year earlier.

Stripping out certain one-time items, adjusted per-share earnings were \$6.07, ahead of the \$5.82 forecast by analysts, according to FactSet.

Revenue rose 1% to \$22.22 billion. Analysts surveyed by FactSet forecast revenue of \$21.74 billion.

FedEx expects revenue to be flat or increase up to 2% in the first quarter. Analysts were anticipating a sales increase of about 0.6%.

Earnings per share are projected to be \$2.90 to \$3.50, below the \$3.83 a share analysts were forecasting.

Adjusted earnings per share are set to be \$3.40 to \$4.00, missing the \$4.05 expected by Wall Street.

The company didn't share earnings or sales guidance for the 2026 fiscal year. Its outlook assumes no additional adverse economic, geopolitical or trade-related developments, it said.

The Memphis, Tenn., company in March cut its outlook for the 2025 fiscal year, citing softer demand and uncertainty from tariffs. Inflation had slowed business-to-business shipments and consumer demand as well, the company said at the time.

Before sweeping tariffs were announced in April, FedEx was grappling with subdued shipping demand for about three years as inflation pushed prices higher and curtailed some consumers' discretionary spending. The company has been looking for ways to cut costs, and is spinning off its freight business.

FedEx's segment operating results improved during the fourth quarter, driven by increased U.S. and international export volumes and higher base yield. Its freight segment's results declined due to lower fuel surcharges, reduced weight per shipment and higher healthcare and wage costs.

The company has been looking for ways to cut costs, and is spinning off its freight business.

FedEx's segment operating results improved during the fourth quarter, driven by increased U.S. and international export volumes and higher base yield. Its freight segment's results declined due to lower fuel surcharges, reduced weight per shipment and higher healthcare and wage costs.

Are You Missing Out On WSJ Digital Content?

Your WSJ subscription goes far beyond the news at your door each day. From audio articles to curated newsletters, explore more with your WSJ digital benefits.

Here's a quick look at additional ways to access WSJ.

Newsletters

Keep up with your interests with our curated newsletters—including with your subscription and sent directly to your inbox.

WSJ.com/printnl

Audio

Give your eyes a break and instead press play. Listen to the latest audio articles or dig into the topics you care about with our WSJ podcasts.

WSJ.com/print_audio

The Print Edition App

On the go? Page through the digital version instead. Access the subscriber-only app to click through the day's print articles—and never miss a story.

WSJ.com/print_app

Email Sharing

Grant access to the biggest headlines. Share WSJ stories with your friends and family. Simply click on the share icon above the article to message or copy the link.

Look for this

Not sure how to access WSJ.com with your current print subscription? Visit [WSJ.com/digitalaccess](https://www.wsj.com/digitalaccess)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

© 2025 Dow Jones & Co., Inc. All rights reserved. 6DJ0174

Who's Who of Distinguished Leaders: 2025 Honorees

Since 1898, Marquis Who's Who has remained the standard for reliable and comprehensive biographical reference material. We are proud to highlight hand-selected listees who have been recognized as *Distinguished Leaders* in their fields of endeavor.

Of 1.6 million listees, only a small percentage are recognized with the *Distinguished Leaders* honor. We laud these individuals for their ambition, professional fortitude, industry contributions, and career accomplishments.

www.marquiswhoswho.com

Rebecca Babcock Fenerci, PhD
Founder, CEO, Psychologist
Compassionate Healing

Daniel W. Barefoot
Historian, Author, Magician

Tieg Bean, CPA
Vice President of Finance
CyberQP

Alan D. Brandis, PhD
Licensed Clin. Psychologist
Atlanta Area Psych. Assoc.

Robert Warren Button, PhD
Senior Analyst (Adjunct)
RAND Corporation

Ray A. Cameron
Sr. Exec., Financial Svcs.

Yuvraj "Yuvi" Chopra
Owner
Tribeca Hotel FIDI

Vivek Kesarwani
Enterprise Architect
HCL Tech

Robert J. Levenson
Managing Member
Lenox Capital Group, LLC

Who's Who of Distinguished Leaders 2025 Honoree

Judith Pratt, MFA
Professional Visual Artist
Judith Pratt Studio

Pablo C. Rivera
State Court Specialist
Skadden, Arps, Slate, et al.

Hector Jose Rodriguez
Area Director of Banquets
Loews Hotels & Co

Mark Thompson, CPA
CEO
Mark Thompson CPA

Mattielyn B. Williams
Administrative Judge (Ret.)
Tennessee Dept. of State

L. Jeffrey Zeldman
Executive Creative Director
Automatic