

NAM COVID-19 Update
March 30, 2020

This morning, the NAM hosted a call with Rear Admiral John Polowczyk, the leader of FEMA's Supply Chain Stabilization Task Force, and manufacturers of personal protective equipment to coordinate private-sector assistance to PPE and other critical products. And yesterday afternoon, the NAM convened a call with Department of Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Robert Kadlec and medical device manufacturers to discuss how we can accelerate ventilator production to save the lives of Americans afflicted with COVID-19.

These are the latest examples of how the NAM has continued coordinating with the federal government to match manufacturers' capabilities and expertise with our country's critical needs. We are providing open forums for manufacturers to share the challenges and bottlenecks you are facing directly with federal leaders in order to expedite the distribution and production of key supplies.

Here are some of the other recent developments:

Manufacturers Push for Clarity, Consistency to Protect Workforce

Safely continuing operations amid evolving state and local restrictions is an ongoing challenge for many of our members, so the NAM, along with our state partners, will continue to push for clarity and consistency while updating you on the latest developments. I have now sent a letter to attorneys general, police chiefs and sheriffs calling on them to help manufacturers to operate safely and efficiently. This follows our letter to the nation's governors.

At the federal level, the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency has now released updated guidance on Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce:

https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA_Guidance_on_the_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workforce_Version_2.0_Updated.pdf. Today, the NAM held a call with DHS and more than 500 members to discuss the update.

If your state has not issued guidance, as an added resource we have created this sample document that you can modify and provide to employees to carry and help demonstrate they are employed in essential work:

<http://documents.nam.org/PA/Essential%20Employee%20Letter%20Example.pdf>. These types of letters do not carry the force of law but are intended to provide employees with more information in uncertain times. We encourage you to consult your state and local requirements and check the NAM's state tracker for helpful resources:

<http://documents.nam.org/PA/State%20COVID%20Operations%20Snapshot.pdf>.

NAM Asks Treasury, IRS for Quick Implementation of Payroll Tax Deferral

One key provision of the CARES Act allows your businesses to defer payment of employer payroll taxes for the remainder of the year with repayment due in equal installments in 2021 and 2022. To ensure this resource is available to you quickly, the NAM sent a letter to the Treasury Department and the IRS calling for the provision's expeditious implementation. You can read the letter here:

[http://documents.nam.org/COVID/CARES%20Act%20Letter%20\(National%20Association%20of%20Manufacturers\)%20FINAL.pdf](http://documents.nam.org/COVID/CARES%20Act%20Letter%20(National%20Association%20of%20Manufacturers)%20FINAL.pdf)

NAM–Manufacturing Leadership Council Employee Safety Call for You on Wednesday

We know that keeping your employees safe is your number-one priority, so the NAM and the MLC are hosting a special call to discuss the best ways to mitigate the risk to your workforce, limit the spread of COVID-19 and ensure your manufacturing operations can continue. This call will cover what's changed for manufacturers in the past few weeks due to the pandemic, and you'll hear from leaders at Eli Lilly, who will discuss what they're doing to keep their operations moving while serving the health and welfare of our nation. The call will take place on Wednesday, April 1, at 11:00 a.m. EDT. Spots are limited, so sign up here:

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Americans are relying on manufacturers, and our industry has mobilized at an historic scale, reigniting the “Arsenal of Democracy” into today’s “Arsenal of Health.” Your NAM will continue working with the federal government to ensure you can continue doing your critical work in this time of crisis.

You can always visit nam.org/coronavirus for the latest information, including state-specific resources. It is updated regularly. And please email our Response Team at responseteam@nam.org with any questions or feedback.

Best,

Jay

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