

NAM COVID-19 Update  
May 28, 2020

The CDC has released a [new resource](#) with tools and strategies to deploy ahead of office reopenings. It is intended to supplement the regularly updated [CDC guidance for businesses and employers](#). For manufacturing settings, it is vital to continue following the CDC and OSHA's [interim guidance for manufacturing workers and employers](#), and you can find information for cleaning and disinfecting workplaces [here](#), along with printable resources. You can also refer to the Manufacturing Leadership Council's "[New Operational Practices to Consider in the Time of COVID-19](#)" for ways manufacturers are meeting and exceeding CDC and OSHA guidelines.

We urge manufacturers to take all CDC-issued guidance seriously and to implement the strategies presented. These strategies represent the best science and thinking around protecting the workforce and the public from COVID-19. As the country reopens and high levels of cases in different parts of the country remain a challenge, maintaining social distancing of six feet, frequent hand-washing, avoiding large gatherings and wearing face coverings all remain important and proven public health strategies. It's important for the strength of the manufacturing sector, the renewal of the economy and the return to school for our future workforce that we all maintain workplace and community protective measures, even as some restrictions are lifted around the country. Our country is counting on us to lead the way.

#### **Federal Reserve Releases Main Street Lending Program Documents**

The Federal Reserve has released the legal forms and agreements for eligible borrowers and lenders to participate in the Main Street Lending Program. The Fed has also published instructions for completing the required documents and an updated FAQ overview of the program. You can access all the new documents and information [here](#).

#### **House Passes NAM-Backed Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act**

This afternoon, the House of Representatives passed the bipartisan Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act, which includes many of our [proposed reforms](#) to the PPP, such as extending the covered period for PPP loans to 24 weeks and granting enhanced flexibility in how PPP loan dollars can be allocated between payroll and nonpayroll expenses. The Senate will still need to consider and pass the bill. We will have more details for you in tomorrow's edition of Input.

#### **IRS Provides FAQs on Net Operating Loss and Corporate AMT**

The IRS has issued FAQs concerning the interaction of the CARES Act's net operating loss provision and the corporate alternative minimum tax. The CARES Act's NOL provision allows companies to use tax losses from 2018, 2019 and 2020 to offset income from the previous five years, which includes years in which the AMT was in effect (the 2017 tax reform eliminated the AMT beginning in tax year 2018). You can review the FAQs [here](#).

#### **NAM Leads on Worker Safety, Argues Against Emergency Temporary Standard**

The NAM led a coalition effort to encourage OSHA and the CDC to continue issuing evidence-backed workplace safety guidance and specifically urged Congress not to mandate an emergency temporary standard. A congressional mandate would box OSHA into one standard and prevent it from updating its recommendations as more is learned about the spread of COVID-19. You can read the letter [here](#). The NAM also [shared](#) examples of how manufacturers are meeting and exceeding CDC and OSHA safety guidance and the NAM's operational resources with the committee.

### **NAM Webinar with the EEOC**

The NAM will host a webinar Wednesday, June 3, at 11:00 a.m. EDT with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to outline what manufacturers need to know about nondiscrimination laws during the COVID-19 pandemic. The presentation will cover what steps employers can take to prevent discrimination in the workplace while making necessary changes to protect the health and safety of workers. You are invited to register [here](#).

### **Manufacturers' Outlook Survey Results**

The NAM has released the results of the [Manufacturers' Outlook Survey](#) for the second quarter of 2020, showing that despite a historic drop in optimism to nearly 34% and challenging business conditions, the vast majority of manufacturers (98.7%) have continued or only temporarily halted operations. Thanks to all who participated in this important survey. Additional information on the survey is available [here](#).

### **New June 1 Deadline: Solicitations for Surgical Masks and Gowns**

Last week, I shared with you that the Defense Logistics Agency, which is in charge of sourcing personal protective equipment and other critical supplies for the federal government, is looking to purchase surgical masks and isolation gowns. These solicitations (#SPE1C1-20-R-0102 for surgical masks and #SPE1C1-20-R-0103 for isolation gowns) have been posted on the [DLA Internet Bid Board System](#) and on the [System for Award Management](#) website. The deadline has been extended to Monday, June 1. If you want to compete for these contracts, you will need to take the appropriate steps to do business with the Department of Defense. A step-by-step guide for doing business with the DoD can be found [here](#). In addition, Procurement Technical Assistance Centers are a free resource to guide companies through the government contracting process. Find your local PTAC [here](#).

Please keep visiting the regularly updated [nam.org/coronavirus](#) site for the latest information, including operational guidance, our policy plans and resources and an [updated breakdown of state and local orders](#).

If your company is looking for ways to contribute to COVID-19 relief efforts, you can connect with NAM partner [Good360](#). They help companies do good by distributing highly needed product donations to people facing challenging life circumstances—all through their global network of vetted nonprofit partners. Please reference the NAM as your source of referral so we can track the many positive contributions of our members.

Best,

Jay

President and CEO  
National Association of Manufacturers