3M ramps up respirator production, supports coronavirus relief efforts

Terms:
3M Stories

As the 2019 Novel Coronavirus continues to impact people around the world, 3M is committed to supporting the public health and governmental response to the outbreak.

Global demand for supplies used to treat and help protect people, such as respirators, is currently exceeding supply. 3M is ramping up production at its manufacturing facilities around the world, including in the U.S., Asia and Europe, as quickly as possible.

In China and elsewhere, 3M is working with customers, distributors, governments and medical officials to help get supplies where they are most needed. 3M is also closely monitoring and responding to any potential impact to our broader supply chain.

We notified 3M authorized distributors that we are prioritizing orders to help serve our base business – including hospitals – due to high global demand.

As a leader in personal protective equipment (PPE) for healthcare professionals, workers and the public, 3M has not changed the prices we charge for 3M respirators as a result of the outbreak; however, we cannot control the prices other dealers or retailers charge for 3M respirators.

3M’s manufacturing model is “local for local,” with the majority of our products made in China being sold in China. We continue to manufacture personal protective equipment in multiple geographies, including in the United States.

Supporting relief efforts
3M has donated medical supplies such as respirators, surgical masks and hand sanitizer in affected areas in China, and we will continue to work with our humanitarian aid partners such as Wuhan Red Cross, Direct Relief and MAP International to provide support.

3Mgives, the social investment arm of 3M, also pre-stocks supplies with humanitarian aid partners, and these product donations – including N95 or equivalent respirators – were provided to be rapidly deployed to affected communities. This is in addition to local 3M China product donations of respirators, surgical masks and hand sanitizer, totaling more than $1 million USD to date.
PPE Usage

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have not made any recommendations for PPE use, including respirators, by the general public. Healthcare workers are advised to wear PPE in certain situations.

The WHO reported the outbreak of disease originating in Wuhan City, China, caused by the coronavirus in December 2019. While the initial cases of this virus have been associated with a specific seafood and animal market in Wuhan, additional cases have been reported mostly in China and several other countries, including the United States.

Symptoms of the virus may include fever, cough, sore throat and difficulty breathing.

Inquiries from organizations and individuals seeking to support the response in China can reach out to 3M Global Security Operations Center at globsecopscenter@mmm.com.

For more information about respirators and the outbreak, please see 3M’s Worker Health & Safety page.

This is an evolving situation, and it is recommended that all concerned consult the WHO and the CDC websites frequently for the most updated information regarding the outbreak.

Multimedia

Preview Image:

All Other Multimedia:
donation_to_Wuhan2.jpg (55.36 KB)

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