

Coronavirus Resources for the Apparel, Footwear, and Textile Industry

Updated May 29, 2020

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The Coronavirus pandemic has deeply affected the apparel, footwear, and textile industry. As the situation continues to evolve, the SAC wants to support the brands, retailers, and manufacturers affected by the pandemic. At this time, collaboration and partnership are more important than ever to scale meaningful change.

This document provides resources to support your company during these unprecedented times. Check back for new resources regularly as this page gets updated.

Transitioning to Manufacturing Medical Equipment

[#GetUsPPE](#)

#GetUsPPE (personal protective equipment) is a grassroots movement by medical professionals on the front lines of the coronavirus pandemic. This group's mission is to develop a platform that facilitates the production and delivery of life-saving PPE to healthcare workers across the United States. The website includes sample phone scripts for calling hospitals and shipping items as well as specifications and requirements for producing PPE. [Register](#) as a PPE manufacturer to connect with hospitals in need of PPE.

[L.A. Protects](#)

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office developed the LA Protects program and website to provide information for companies and organizations interested in producing and requesting essential protective gear for the LA community in response to coronavirus. On this site, find information from Kaiser Permanente on approved specifications, materials, and processes for producing protective gear.

[New York City Economic Development Corporation](#)

The NYCEDC is creating a consolidated list of companies, vendors and individuals who are able to assist in the manufacturing of PPEs. Complete the [EDC's form](#) to outline how you can assist.

[Supplying PPE to New York State Government](#)

Businesses interested in producing personal protective equipment (PPE) for New York can reference the [state's website](#) to get information on product specifications and certifications.

PPE Regulations and Protocols

[Occupational Safety & Health Administration \(OSHA\) Guidelines for PPE Shortages](#)

OSHA guidelines for a lack of personal protective equipment (PPE).

[CDC Decontamination and Reuse of Filtering Facepiece Respirators](#)

CDC guidelines for reusing disposable filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) as a crisis capacity strategy.

[NPR Story: Technology To Clean And Reuse PPE Is Being Deployed To Hotspot Hospitals](#)

News story from NPR on a system to clean and disinfect PPE for frontline healthcare workers.

[Taking Advantage of Special Funds and Funding](#)

[CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund](#)

Originally established to support the industry after 9/11, the CFDA (Council of Fashion Designers of America, Inc)/Vogue Fashion Fund relaunched to provide support to those in the fashion industry impacted by the coronavirus. As part of this effort, Vogue is launching a video series called [A Common Thread](#), which will give an inside look at the people behind the fashion industry, how they've been affected, and how they will move forward.

Grants made by A Common Thread will target designers, small retailers and other fashion companies whose businesses have been impacted by COVID-19. [Applications](#) are due May 3.

[CFDA Guide to Bankruptcy](#)

Information on U.S. bankruptcy law and the different types of bankruptcy proceedings.

[U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

On the national level, the U.S. Small Business Administration offers low-interest federal disaster loans for small businesses suffering substantial loss as a result of COVID-19. To contact the SBA disaster assistance customer service center, call 1(800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

[Understanding the U.S. Stimulus Package](#)

[Los Angeles Small Business Emergency Microloan Program](#)

L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti approved an \$11 million economic relief package for small businesses impacted by the coronavirus

[Pratt Center for Community Development New York City Resources](#)

The Pratt Center for Community Development is tracking financial relief and other resources during the coronavirus global pandemic. Access the [live document](#) meant to aid New York City manufacturers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs.

Supporting Employees

[Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) developed this COVID-19 planning guidance based on traditional infection prevention and industrial hygiene practices. It focuses on the need for employers to implement engineering, administrative, and work practice controls and personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as considerations for doing so.

[Resources for Businesses and Employers](#)

Access the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) resources and recommendations for business and employers, including guidance on business operations and cleaning procedures.

[Job opportunities for workers displaced by COVID-19](#)

The National Retail Federation is compiling a list of companies hiring new employees across the U.S. to meet the increased demand from coronavirus.

[The State of Fashion 2020: Coronavirus Update](#)

Mckinsey & Company has released an updated State of Fashion 2020 report, answering the question "How will changes to the global economy and consumers' behavior affect fashion in the post coronavirus world?" The article summarizing the updated report can be seen [here](#).

[USFIA Member Resources for COVID-19](#)

The United States Fashion Industry Association has put together resources to support the industry's response to COVID-19.

[Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

Business Resources

[COVID-19 and the consumer markets sector](#)

Pwc resources for the consumer markets sector.

[Coronavirus Company Preparedness Checklist](#)

AAFA has assembled a checklist of procedures, for consideration, based upon what fellow AAFA members are deploying to address COVID-19.

Manufacturing & Facility Resources



[Better Buying Special Report: Guidelines for “Better” Purchasing Practices Amidst the Coronavirus Crisis and Recovery](#)

| Summary of Poor Practices and Best Practices Related to Short-Term Crisis Management: Supporting Supplier Cash Flow | |
|---|--|
| Current Impacts/Poor Practices | Best Practices |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canceling orders • Extended payment terms • Increase in number of late payments • Reduction in expected orders and quantities • Inability to pay vendors • Reduced hours/underemployment • Worker layoffs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not canceling orders • Collaborating to reduce negative impacts • Rationalizing current assortments • Providing full compensation or on-time/early payment despite orders being held or quantities being reduced • Paying for fabric/raw material liability • Accepting shipping delays |

| Summary of Poor Practices and Best Practices Related to Crisis Recovery | |
|--|---|
| Current Impacts/Poor Practices | Best Practices |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to forecasted volumes • Changes in capacity reserved • Inability to pay vendors • Reduced hours/underemployment • Worker layoffs • Worker turnover • Delays in receive tech packs/product specifications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing updated forecasts/plans • Securing future production capacity • Enhanced management of raw materials suppliers • Accepting shipping delays • Willingness to accept increased costs/alternative methods to ship goods • Implementing virtual technology |

Fair Labor Association: Protecting Workers During and After the Pandemic

WHAT CAN BRANDS & RETAILERS DO INSTEAD OF CANCELING ORDERS?



Collaborate

to push out the time & action calendar; slow down deliveries through 2021



Transition

to designing PPE and protective coverings (Face masks, shields, fascinators, and gloves)



Utilize

ordered materials to transition to protective accessories



Pursue

steps towards liquidity to support cash flow



WHAT CAN SUPPLIERS DO TO PRODUCE ORDERS & MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS?

Health & Safety

- Spread out workstations; uphold social distancing; explore adding shifts to reduce the number of workers in the factory at one time
- Provide daily PPE and clean soap and water
- Regularly disinfect workstations; during and between shifts
- Provide sick leave for workers

Hours of Work

- Ensure workers can rest so they stay healthy; all workers should receive at least 1 day off every 7 days; and no worker should work more than 60 hours per week
- Ensure overtime is voluntary

Migrant Workers

- Provide safe and clean housing; expand housing accommodations for social distancing
- Follow national government instructions on continued employment for migrant workers

Retrenchment

- Provide support to retrenched workers with filing of social security benefits & ensure workers receive their legally owed severance benefits
- Provide grievance mechanisms to retrenched workers



Fair Labor Association: COUNTRY-SPECIFIC UPDATES ON PROVISIONS FOR WORKERS IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Centers for Disease Control: Disinfecting Building Facilities

Download this 3-page document with guidelines on disinfecting facilities.

Resources for small artisans - NEST

We recognize that many businesses are facing unexpected challenges as we navigate the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). To support artisan businesses through the coronavirus outbreak we are developing vetted resource guides, including information on legal and funding support. New resources will be added on an ongoing basis.

NEST recently launched a PPE purchasing initiative, led by long-term Nest supporter, Qurate Retail Group, and joined by key partners, Etsy, Target, Amazon, Mastercard, Winn Family Foundation and Cordes Foundation. Nest will "purchase" masks and other PPE to be donated to frontline workers and vulnerable populations, so that our small business partners do not bear the investment in volunteer production alone. [Donate masks](#) to frontline workers or [purchase masks](#) made by Nest Guild Artisans.

[Guidelines for responsible purchasing practices in times of COVID-19](#)

Guidelines from the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles on responsible purchasing practices.

[Designing an Anxiety Free Space for Workers in Factories](#)

Good Business Lab presents steps that the garment industry can take for its workers in a COVID-19 world.

Webinar Events

No events at this time

Industry Reports

[Weaving a Better Future: Rebuilding a More Sustainable Fashion Industry After COVID-19](#)

This public report, written by the SAC, Higg Co, and Boston Consulting Group (BCG), highlights how sustainability in our industry is at risk in a post-crisis world. It lays out a framework for a phased rebuilding that elevates the role of social and environmental commitments within forward-looking business resiliency strategies.

[Time for change: How to use the crisis to make fashion sourcing more agile and sustainable](#)

This report from McKinsey & Company assesses the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on sourcing operations and spotlights the steps that companies are taking in their immediate response. It then considers the strategies—and the paradigm shift—that will be necessary to reshape sourcing practices moving forward.

[COVID-19 Survey on Retail](#)

Analysis of how COVID-19 has impacted retail in the United States.

[ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work.](#)

Ongoing analysis from the International Labour Organization regarding COVID-19 and the impacts on work.

SAC Members' COVID-19 Efforts

Aditya Birla

India is observing a 21-day precautionary lockdown across the country and operating from homes. [Aditya Birla Group is donating Rs 500 Crores \(about USD \\$65 Million\)](#) towards the fight against the COVID 19 pandemic. Rs.400 cr. will be donated to the [PM-CARES Fund](#).

In this light, the Aditya Birla Group has undertaken the following initiatives:

1. Contribution of Rs. 400 crores to the PM- CARES Fund.
2. Rs.50 cr grant to FICCI-Aditya Birla CSR Centre for Excellence for Covid relief measures.
3. To activate a 100-bed Covid-19 facility at Seven Hills Hospital in Mumbai, in partnership with BMC. This initiative is being spearheaded by Mrs. Neerja Birla.
4. Earmarked more than 200 beds for Covid-19 Patients across locations including Ujjain, Pune, Hazaribagh, Rayagada, Solapur and Kharach.
5. Allocated Rs.50 cr towards supply of 1 million N95 masks, 280,000 personal protective equipment (PPE), as well as ventilators.
6. Commenced production of 1 million triple layer surgical masks and 1 lakh coverall garments with the support of the Textiles Ministry.
7. Involved community and self-help groups in home production of lakhs of masks across several locations.
8. Continuous and proactive engagement with local communities and other stakeholders. This includes awareness camps across 200 locations and door to door campaigns to reinforce prevention messages and encourage social distancing.

The Aditya Birla Group recognizes that no contribution can be too large or small, given the enormity of the pandemic. Every effort counts. The Group will continue to extend whatever support is feasible to help fight the pandemic and restore normalcy.

Aritzia

[Aritzia](#) is funneling all profits from all current sales to its Community Relief Fund so they can keep paying Aritzia employees. To date, they've been able to avoid any layoffs using this method.

Artistic Milliners

In the wake of COVID-19, [Artistic Milliners](#) quickly mobilized its resources to help protect its people and mitigate the impact of the pandemic. As a first step, the company implemented strict measures across its facilities for workers' health and safety in line with WHO and CDC requirements. A visual guide of *Re-Opening in the Times of Covid-19* was designed and open sourced for the benefit of the manufacturing sector. As an immediate response, the company also distributed grocery bags of food to 10,000 of its minimum wage workers in the context of

on-going holy month of Ramadan and city's lockdown situation that has slowed economic activity.

Further, the company quickly moved to collaborate with national and international medical institutions to develop medical grade PPE, the first 10,000 of which will be donated to the Government of Sindh. To further help frontline workers, particularly in respect to the gender lens, AM has partnered with IFC, Tackling Childcare wing to modify and open its daycare facilities for children of essential workers. The services will be provided completely free of cost.

For more details about what the company is doing, visit their [website](#) and read [this article](#).

Bugaboo

In partnership with medical equipment company Ansell, [Bugaboo](#) has transitioned part of its factory in Xiamen to produce parts for personal protection suits.

C&A

[C&A](#) has endorsed a [global multi-stakeholder action plan](#) to help garment manufacturers and workers in developing economies survive the disruption to global trade caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. C&A along with other fashion brands and retailers is calling on governments and financial institutions to speed up access to credit and income support for businesses and workers. Under the action plan, C&A is also committing to provide effective, open lines of communication with supply chain partners about the status of business operations and future planning of orders based on how the current crisis evolves.

In response to the government ordered closure of all of its 1,400 stores across Europe, C&A was initially forced to pause all orders. The fashion retailer has since reached out to its over 300 suppliers to find mutually beneficial solutions. C&A has to date reinstated 93% of all previously paused orders.

Capri Holdings (Versace, Jimmy Choo, Michael Kors)

Capri Holdings and its collective founders are donating over \$3 million U.S. dollars.

The donation will be divided among the following organizations:

Jimmy Choo

- [World Health Organisation's Covid-19 Solidarity Response Fund](#)
- [NHS COVID-19 Urgent Appeal by NHS Charities Together](#)

Versace

- [Chinese Red Cross Foundation](#)
- [San Raffaele Hospital](#)
- [Camera Nazionale Della Moda Italiana for the 'Italia, we are with you' initiative](#)

Michael Kors

- [NYU Langone Health](#)
- [New York-Presbyterian Hospital](#)
- [God's Love We Deliver](#)
- [A Common Thread, CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund for Covid-19 Relief](#)

Ciel Textile

Leveraging fabric on hand and its Research & Development team, [Ciel Textile](#) has produced over 3 million masks in Mauritius, Madagascar and India. The innovative waterproof outer layer and absorbent inner layer were designed to protect the person wearing the mask and those around them.

Crystal International Group Limited

[Crystal Group](#) has placed employees' health and safety as the first priority issue in these unprecedented times. Crystal Group's factories in China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have implemented strict measures to control the epidemic situation, including stringent disinfection measures, employee temperature checks, and creation of quarantine zones and isolation areas. The factories have also provided employees with masks, installed partitions at dining tables, and posted informational materials to promote awareness of precautionary measures.

Eralda

Eralda believes brands should make efforts where possible to try and support their supply chain partners. Brands can help foster a soft landing for garment workers in India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and elsewhere.

Eralda suggests brands and buyers take the following actions where possible:

1. **Pay for what you ordered (goods shipped / fabric paid for by the factory).** Try to not cancel orders that are ready to be shipped, that are already in production or for which fabric is bought and/or cut. This situation should not automatically lead to extraordinary postponement of scheduled payments. Do not risk bankrupting your supply chain. Pay what you can and on time wherever possible.
2. **Discuss the impact on the garment workers with your supplier.** If a factory is forced to close or is struggling in these times, assess that your purchasing actions might help pay wages. It is particularly important that brands share the responsibility of ensuring that wages already earned by workers are paid.
3. **Support vendors that undergo any temporary closures due to local social distancing measures.** Communicate with the factory. Check how you can support them at this difficult time and then help them re-open, with orders, when appropriate.

Fast Retailing

[Fast Retailing](#), parent company to brands like Theory, is working with the New York state government to deliver 1 million masks and also donated 10 million masks to high-priority medical facilities around the world.

Gap Inc.

[Gap Inc.](#) is pivoting resources so factory partners can make masks, gowns, and scrubs for healthcare workers on the front lines. Teams at Gap Inc. are also connecting company vendors with hospital networks in California and New York to provide much needed personal protective equipment (PPE) to healthcare workers. To support underserved families during the crisis, the Gap Foundation is donating \$1 million to local, state, national, and international non-profit organizations.

H&M

To help the World Health Organization fight the coronavirus, H&M Foundation donated \$500,000 to the [COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund](#). H&M is leveraging its supply chain to produce protective gear for healthcare workers in Italy and Spain. Organizations like the Red Cross and Save the Children will be given access to H&M's social media channels to spread important health and safety messages to H&M's 120 million global followers.

HanesBrands

[HanesBrands](#) is on track to make 320 million FDA-approved cotton face masks for the US Dept of Health & Human Services.

IDH (The Sustainable Trade Initiative)

IDH has launched a new platform called the [PPE Dashboard](#). The platform will support apparel factories to produce the needed equipment that meets the demand and specifications of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) related to COVID-19. On this open platform, factories can find guidance regarding PPE production. Factories that are now producing PPE are listed in order to facilitate engagement with prospective buyers.

Inditex

In line with its “Workers at the Centre 2019 – 2022” strategy, Inditex is actively working to minimize the impact of COVID-19 for its suppliers and the workers who are part of the Inditex supply chain.

Multi Stakeholder Engagement

Since the beginning of the pandemic Inditex has maintained a proactive stance and joined forces with the main organizations defending workers' rights, such as IndustriALL Global Union, the International Labor Organization, Ethical Trading Initiative or ACT (Action, Collaboration, Transformation). Together with these and other organizations, Inditex has focused its efforts on minimizing the impacts of COVID-19 on workers and ensuring the sustainability of global supply chains in the future.

Inditex proactively worked on the development of “[COVID-19: Action in the Global Garment Industry](#),” a call to action to articulate the urgent priorities and specific commitments for global organizations across the industry to help them face the economic effects from the COVID-19 pandemic. The call to action focuses on protection of the income, health, and employment of garment workers. Inditex has endorsed this call to action and commits to the implementation of its measures.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) of Suppliers

Inditex is in constant contact with suppliers and relevant actors in the different production markets to ensure that suppliers adopt adequate health and hygiene protection measures. Its most immediate actions have included the creation of guides based on recommendations from the World Health Organization to be conveyed to suppliers to ensure their implementation in their workplaces.

Responsible Purchasing Practices

Inditex has maintained and reinforced its policy of responsible purchasing practices, guaranteeing the payment of all orders already placed and in the production phase as an immediate measure. Additionally, Inditex is using its leverage to engage with different financial entities to facilitate solutions that may help suppliers and their workers.

Medical Materials

Inditex donated over 2.5 million units of basic hygiene and protective materials specifically identified by the authorities, such as face masks, gloves, caps and shoe covers, worth €1 million. The Tsinghua University Education Foundation distributed the medical material in accordance with the requests presented by the health authorities across the various regions of China.

Inditex made its full logistics and procurement capabilities available to Spanish health authorities, donor businesses, and individuals for the purchase and transportation of health equipment. The volume of personal protective equipment brought to Spain by Inditex since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic stands at over 80 million units. That figure includes purchases made by the central government, the regional governments, hospitals, private sector donors, including many businesses and individuals, and by Inditex and the Amancio Ortega Foundation.

Inditex has committed to individually purchasing and donating medical material worth €25 million. Specifically, the company has acquired 420 ventilators, 300,000 N95/FFP2 face masks, more than 10 million surgery masks, nearly 14 million pairs of gloves, 384,000 face shields, 380,000 protective suits, 320,000 surgery gowns, 200,000 sanitiser units, 100,000 pairs of glasses and 100,000 caps.

Inspectorio

Inspectorio's [Rise platform](#) is now available for free, which allows brands, retailers, and suppliers to remotely ensure safe working conditions for their partner facilities.

Kontoor Brands

[Kontoor Brands](#) to produce and supply patient and disposable isolation gowns to hospitals in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

Kontoor Brands announced that it has begun producing approximately 50,000 Level 1 patient gowns and 10,000 disposable isolation gowns for clinicians to assist hospitals that are dealing with the influx of patients as a result of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release [here](#):

Levi Strauss & Co.

[Levi's pledges \\$3 million to Covid-19 relief.](#)

On April 2, Levi Strauss & Co sent a memo to employees sharing its commitment to support during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We know our response will evolve as the impact of the crisis continues to play out – but to start with, we are committing \$3 million to relief efforts, with a focus on employees, community partners and supply chain workers. Fortunately, supporting our communities through tough challenges is nothing new to LS&Co. We have strong programs and networks in place that we have been able to quickly pivot toward this response.

Morito Scovill Americas

[Morito Scovill Americas](#) is deeply discounting/donating fasteners to manufacturers who have shifted production to PPE. The company is also donating hundreds of meals to local first responders.

Nike

[Nike](#) pledged a total of more than \$15 million to help fight coronavirus, including major donations to the Oregon Food Bank, the Oregon Community Recovery Fund, and the Oregon Health and Service University. The Nike Foundation is giving \$1 million to the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, as well as to various response funds around the world.

[Working closely](#) with health professionals at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), Nike's innovation, manufacturing and product teams have come together to provide for an urgent need: [Personal Protective Equipment](#) (PPE) in the form of full-face shields and powered, air-purifying respirator (PAPR) lenses to protect against the coronavirus (COVID-19). To date, Nike has provided more than 290,000 pieces of PPE to more than 20 health systems across the United States.

Nike is donating 32,500 pairs of [Air Zoom Pulse](#) to frontline healthcare workers who are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in Barcelona, Berlin, Chicago, London, Los Angeles, Memphis, Milan, New York City, Paris and across Belgium.

Nordstrom

[Nordstrom](#) is working with Kaas Tailored and its teams in California, Texas, Oregon, and Washington states to sew more than 100,000 masks that will be given to the company to use for sanitation purposes as it continues to stay open. Nordstrom will also donate masks to Providence Health and Services, and it's been giving to local charities like Seattle Foundation and Youth Care.

Pratibha Syntex

With the number of cases of COVID-19 rising in India, the need for personal protective equipment (PPE) has skyrocketed. There is a huge gap in availability of PPE for medical personnel. Pratibha understands this critical situation and has taken an [initiative](#) to help its doctors and nurses to fight this battle by manufacturing PPE under Indian Government directives. The factory is engaged in the production of hazmat suits for health care workers.

Pratibha Syntex is also [cooking food](#) as a voluntary service to help fight hunger. To date, they have fed 10,000 people in the last 11 days. Pratibha Syntex stands as one with its community and supports all the people engaged in this fight against COVID-19.

Primark

European retailer [Primark](#) has committed to paying its suppliers \$461 million for orders that were either in production or finished to ensure workers in their supply chain get paid as soon as possible. Primark is proud to announce that it will be donating over 400,000 everyday Primark products to frontline workers, volunteers and patients around the world as part of a global volunteer effort by hundreds of Primark employees.

PVH

The [PVH Foundation](#) is committing US \$1M toward COVID-19 relief:

- \$100,000 donation to the [COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund](#)
- \$50,000 donation to [A Common Thread, CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund for Covid-19 Relief](#)
- \$275,000 donation to the Chinese Society of the Red Cross

PVH has started to ship 2M+ units of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Montefiore Health System in New York. Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger are donating products to the US and Netherlands to support frontline healthcare workers.

Ralph Lauren

In the U.S. the [Ralph Lauren Corporate Foundation](#) donated \$10 million to fighting the coronavirus, \$1 million of which will be given to the [CFDA/Vogue Fashion Fund's A Common Thread initiative](#).

Reformation

New SAC member [Reformation](#) is working in partnership with LA Mayor Eric Garcetti's office to transition its manufacturing to make five million non-medical masks. The organization has also started selling non-medical masks on their website for personal use, small businesses, or donation. Reformation is also selling archival pieces, donating 30% of the proceeds to [Feeding America](#).

Retail Council of Canada

[Coronavirus Covid-19 resources for retailers](#)

[Updates & information](#)

[Questions & answers](#)

[Relief measures by region](#)

[Member resources](#)

Salomon

French sportswear brand [Salomon](#) is collaborating with Chamatex to produce masks for local municipalities and industries where employees are most at risk in their jobs. Their goal is to deliver 90,000 masks from April until June.

Sappi

In an effort to provide relief during the COVID-19 pandemic, [Sappi](#) Southern Africa has made several donations of scarce items such as hand sanitizer, hand soap, face masks, nutritional porridge, and paper products to reduce pressure on the National Government's resources as well as to support the most vulnerable populations.

Donations include:

- 16,000 liters of Sappi hand sanitizer, worth R1 million, distributed to 80 community clinics and health care centres in the rural and peri-urban areas of KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. Sappi is also distributing sanitizer to its own employees and their families.
- 15,000 surgical masks procured for community clinics and health care centres in KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga.
- 19,000 cloth masks procured for Sappi employees and access to contractors who continue to deliver essential services during this time of national lockdown and who require essential PPE.
- 16,000 units of bar soap procured from local SMMEs in KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga, distributed to communities through local NGOs.

- 60,000kgs of A+ instant porridge distributed to vulnerable communities in KwaZulu Natal and Mpumalanga, through a partnership with the Southern Lodestar Foundation and the Spar Group. This donation will ensure that struggling patients get the required vitamins to strengthen their immune systems, especially the elderly and children.

Additional COVID-19 Relief Efforts by Sappi Saiccor and Ngodwana Mills:

- 3,000 cloth masks produced at the Saiccor Mill skills centre, using six apprentices. The masks are distributed along with instructions on how they should be used for maximum effectiveness, with the clear message that they should be used in addition to observing the rules of social distancing and personal hygiene regimes.
- R15,000 donated to Nelspruit Community Forum to feed local homeless people.
- 150 blankets for local homeless people donated in support of the call from the MEC for Social Development.

Other Sappi Southern Africa COVID-19 Efforts:

- Using Sappi Typek brand message “Live a Life of Note,” South Africans were encouraged to remain positive and to bring about positive change, by sharing their messages of hope and inspiration on Sappi’s social media platform. In addition to sponsoring R1,000 a day to authors of inspirational messages, Sappi pledged an additional R1,000 a day to the Solidarity Fund, with a total contribution of R35,000.
- Donation of Sappi manufactured toilet paper and Typek office paper, worth R2million, to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) for their future distribution
- Distribution of educational material regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, using Sappi’s considerable networks within local communities.
- Contribution to relief efforts in the two provinces through the Department of Economic Development as well as Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), in support of a government-private sector coordinated effort.
- Active contribution in formalising a targeted communication program for the water and sanitation economic development stream through the organized business support initiative led by BSA (Business for South Africa).
- Reduction of salaries or fees for the three months, ending June 2020, as well the forfeit of short-term incentive bonuses for 2020, by Sappi’s board of directors and regional leadership teams, to supplement COVID-19 relief funding efforts.

SGS

[SGS](#) has partnered with specialists in infectious diseases, research and innovation, and pharmaceuticals to develop and scale a potential vaccine for COVID-19.

Tapestry

[The U.S.-based parent company](#) of Kate Spade, Coach, and Stuart Weitzman has donated 15,000 face masks to various hospitals both at home, as well as in the U.K. and Spain. It also plans to match employee donations to coronavirus causes up to \$10,000 per employee.

Target

[Target](#) is donating \$10 million USD to the following efforts:

- \$1 million to the Target Team Member Giving Fund, in order to assist team members who are most impacted. Additionally, Target will match up to an additional \$1 million in contributions from fellow team members who wish to assist their colleagues in need.
- \$5 million will be committed to state and local community foundations supporting nonprofit organizations addressing the greatest needs in their area, including vulnerable populations such as underrepresented communities.
- \$3 million will support national nonprofits such as Feeding America and others, assisting with response and recovery for affected communities.
- \$1 million will support organizations such as UNICEF and others, helping provide critical medical equipment and supplies to regions around the world.

VF Corporation

The VF Foundation has pledged an initial \$1.5 million to help support local communities around the world as they respond to COVID-19. The initial funding will provide financial support to the following organizations; Colorado COVID-19 Relief Fund, CDC Foundation Emergency Response Fund, and COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund. In addition to the \$1.5 million, VF Foundation is partnering with VF Corporation to match donations 2-for-1 to the GlobalGiving Coronavirus Relief Fund (up to an additional \$500,000).

[Press release link](#)

[GlobalGiving link](#)

Walmart

Walmart and the Walmart Foundation announced a [\\$25 million commitment](#) on March 17 to support organizations on the frontlines responding to COVID-19. The money will be distributed in a series of grants, each furthering the capacity of organizations to help communities affected by the pandemic.

YKK USA

[YKK USA](#) is donating parts to support the manufacturing of products for COVID-19 relief efforts, including direct donations to the DOD and DHS. The company is also donating to several SAC member companies making PPE.

Email memberservices@apparelcoalition.org with details on what your organization is doing in response to the crisis to be featured here.