DuPont Safety & PPE response to COVID-19

As we continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19, we recognize the importance of ensuring the frontline response workers have the PPE they need to stay protected. Our crisis response team is constantly assessing the needs of our supply chain, based on government and customer input. We are currently working to get the required PPE garments where they are needed as quickly as possible.

Frequently asked questions and answers

Are any of your manufacturing sites impacted by COVID-19?  
Currently, all DuPont Safety production facilities are operating at full capacity. With production facilities strategically placed across the globe, we are prepared to mitigate the challenges our manufacturing operations could potentially face.

What products does DuPont Safety offer for COVID-19 protection?  
We offer a broad portfolio of industrial protective apparel for workers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. For up-to-date guidance, consult the CDC, OSHA, or World Health Organization recommendations on PPE. To address the growing need for providing frontline responders the right PPE, we have significantly increased the production of the most requested DuPont™ Tyvek® and DuPont™ Tychem® garments.

The following DuPont Safety PPE provides protection from the COVID-19 virus:

- Tyvek® and Tychem® disposable coveralls
- Tyvek® and Tychem® long-sleeved gowns
- Tychem® gloves
- ProShield® 80 coveralls
- ProShield® 70 shoe covers
- ProClean® 3 gowns
- ProClean® shoe covers and sleeves

Please note that it is up to the professionals responding to COVID-19 to do a hazard assessment based on the task to be performed and determine the complete PPE ensemble for the hazard(s) they face.

How is DuPont prioritizing supply to get the needed PPE to the frontlines?  
Our top priority is effectively managing the distribution of our PPE to meet the needs of frontline responders, the government, and all others engaged in the response to COVID-19. We have significantly increased production of the most requested Tyvek® and Tychem® garments. Thousands of employees are working around the world to make this happen.

DuPont has fully activated 19 garment production facilities across 9 countries to deliver more than 9 million garments per month. These garments are being supplied through government agencies and commercial distribution channels in support of the COVID-19 response.

In some cases, we are shipping product using air freight in collaboration with key government agencies, to get PPE to the frontline responders as fast as possible. Under normal freight conditions, supply would be filled in 2 to 3 months, but through air freight it can arrive in a few days.

Can I purchase Tyvek® fabric (large master rolls) to make garments locally?  
While we have a great appreciation for the help that so many are willing to provide, the current global PPE demand in the fight against COVID-19 is beginning to exceed our supply capacity. As a result, we have determined that the most effective way to meet the growing demand for Tyvek® coveralls is to utilize our existing garment manufacturing capacity.

For more details on the complete range of PPE available from DuPont, please visit safespec.dupont.com.
The current Tyvek® protective apparel supply chain includes highly trained personnel, and efficient garment manufacturing facilities in 9 countries that are working around the clock to produce Tyvek® garments. At the moment, 100% of the Tyvek® fabric we can produce in our manufacturing operations is being supplied to these trained and capable garment manufacturers, because this is the fastest way to deliver product to those that need it the most.

Thank you for your interest in helping to meet the demand for additional garments.

Can I purchase Tyvek® HomeWrap® or other Tyvek® roll goods to make PPE?
Tyvek® HomeWrap® and other grades of Tyvek® sold for graphics applications are not suitable for use in a PPE garment. Using a grade or style not suitable for PPE could put the wearer at risk. If you’re in need of a PPE garment, visit our Where To Buy page for more information on your specific need and your nearest supplier.

Can protective masks be made out of Tyvek®?
None of our Tyvek® fabric styles are intended for use in a respiratory protection application. Our application in the PPE space is for personal protective apparel only.

DuPont does have another nonwoven material (DuPont® Xavan®) that is used as a stiffener and support layer for the filter media for respiratory face masks. If you are interested in more information about this material, contact: Katja.gross@dupont.com

The Defense Priorities and Allocations System Program (DPAS) was put into effect last week. What impact is this having to help supply garments where they are needed within the US?
The US government has invoked the Defense Protection Act within the past week. We are currently working with the government to respond to their prioritized Tyvek® garment demand in response to COVID-19.

In some cases, we are shipping product using air freight in collaboration with key government agencies, to get PPE to the frontline responders as fast as possible. Under normal freight conditions, supply would be filled in 2 to 3 months, but through air freight it can arrive in a few days.

What are the processes for disinfecting PPE products that may have been exposed to Coronavirus?

Tychem®
Cleaning/disinfecting Tychem® garments for COVID-19

Nomex® and Kevlar®
Cleaning/disinfecting Nomex® & Kevlar® FR/AR apparel for COVID-19

Nomex® Aramid fiber laundering guide

Tyvek®
Tyvek® garments are single-use products and not intended for reuse. DuPont does not recommend washing or disinfecting Tyvek® 400 garments for reuse. They can be worn until damaged, altered or contaminated. We recommend proper doffing and disposal of contaminated garments.

Please visit safespec.dupont.com for guidance on proper use, donning and doffing, and cleaning and disinfecting reusable PPE made with DuPont materials: Tychem®, Kevlar® and Nomex®.

Our thoughts and concern go out to those directly impacted by the COVID-19 virus and to the frontline response personnel. We are proudly working every day to deliver the essential DuPont PPE garments to those managing the COVID-19 response, as their safety is our priority.