Austal USA Teammates,

As previously communicated, the CDC now recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, and especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

Our Supply Chain team has done a great job sourcing cloth face coverings that just arrived today. We will be distributing these cloth face coverings to our employees in operations by the end of the day today, to again use when social distancing is a challenge.

One covering will be distributed to each employee at this time. Please follow the below guidelines.

1. Each employee is responsible for maintaining and taking care of their own mask
2. You should wash the mask per CDC guidelines (on a routine basis)
3. You should have it with you at all times
4. It should be used anytime social distancing is a challenge (working within 6 feet of another person for longer than 15 minutes)
5. This face covering (or any other) is not a substitute for social distancing where possible. We must continue to maintain our discipline of exercising social distancing whenever possible.
6. This face covering is not a substitute for other PPE that is normally required for your job. Please continue to adhere to all other normal PPE requirements.

As you know, face coverings are in limited supply across the country, so please take care of the one Austal as given you, and we encouraged you to make your own cloth face coverings as well, or bring in other types of face coverings like neck gaiters, bandanas, etc.

Thank you for doing your part to keep yourself and coworkers safe during the pandemic. We are in it together.

Thanks,

Craig

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How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings should—
- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

CDC on Homemade Cloth Face Coverings

CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

Should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned regularly? How regularly?

Yes. They should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use.

How does one safely sterilize/clean a cloth face covering?

A washing machine should suffice in properly washing a cloth face covering.

How does one safely remove a used cloth face covering?

Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their cloth face covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

cdc.gov/coronavirus