

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Intergovernmental Affairs

Please see the advisory below from our partners in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) regarding strategies for addressing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) shortages.

April 14, 2020

CISA Advisory



Strategies for Addressing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Shortage

The U.S. government's strategy for addressing COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages relies on three pillars of practice to ensure continued availability of protective gear: reduce – reuse – repurpose. In this time of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated PPE shortages, implementation of contingency plans across all sectors are necessary to ensure continued availability of protective gear. In support of this strategy, the U.S. government has recently released two documents that will be of assistance to all infrastructure sectors.

FEMA has published the attached *COVID-19 Pandemic: Personal Protective Equipment Preservation Best Practices*. This document summarizes government guidance and best practices currently being implemented across the United States for COVID-19 response has been released. While tailored to the Healthcare Sector, many of these strategies can be applied to other sectors with similar PPE requirements.

NIOSH has recently issued *Interim Guidance for Conserving and Extending Filtering Facepiece Respirator Supply in Non-Healthcare Sectors*. That document offers strategies to conserve, extend, and respond to shortages in the supply of NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs) used in non-healthcare worksites such as manufacturing and construction. Employers should implement alternative controls to reduce, as much as possible, their reliance on PPE, particularly FFRs.

Please continue to refer to CDC for updates to posted guidance for businesses and employers to plan and respond to COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/guidance-business-response.html>. For general and other useful information regarding COVID-19, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. Information on FEMA's efforts to stabilize the PPE supply chain can be found at: <https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/04/08/fema-covid-19-supply-chain-task-force-supply-chain-stabilization>.

Respectfully,

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency