



THE **ADHESIVE AND SEALANT** COUNCIL

March 25, 2020

**Request for Continue Operations and Access—
Critical Infrastructure Workforce in COVID-19 Response**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Adhesive and Sealant Council (ASC or the Council) is a North American trade association dedicated to representing the adhesive and sealant industry. The Council comprises 115 adhesive and sealant manufacturers, raw material and equipment suppliers, distributors, and industry consultants, representing more than 75% of the U.S. industry with operations around the world.

The President's March 16th Coronavirus Guidance for America states:

If you work in a critical infrastructure industry, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security . . . you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has identified many of ASC's members' facilities as Critical Infrastructure, and their employees as essential workers who should be allowed access to their locations to ensure continuity of operations and be allowed to transport critical products in support of the National effort to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic. Therefore, the DHS and The Adhesive and Sealant Council are requesting you to allow our members' employees to proceed to their applicable facility or their drivers right-of-passage to proceed to their customers' locations for delivery of critical products.

Specific to COVID-19 response, ASC's members contribute to the Critical Manufacturing and Chemicals Sectors and operations, as identified in the DHS "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response,"¹ published on March 23, 2020:

Critical Manufacturing

- Workers necessary for the manufacturing of materials and products needed for medical supply chains, and for supply chains associated with transportation, energy,

¹ Available online at:

https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/CISA_Guidance_on_the_Essential_Critical_Infrastructure_Workforce_508C_0.pdf

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communications, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, emergency services, and the defense industrial base. Additionally, workers need to maintain the continuity of these manufacturing functions and associated supply chains.

Chemicals

- Workers supporting the chemical and industrial gas supply chains, including workers at chemical manufacturing plants, workers in laboratories, workers at distribution facilities, workers who transport basic raw chemical materials to the producers of industrial and consumer goods, including hand sanitizers, food and food additives, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and paper products;
- Workers supporting the safe transportation of chemicals, including those supporting tank truck cleaning facilities and workers who manufacture packaging items;
- Workers supporting the production of protective cleaning and medical solutions, personal protective equipment, and packaging that prevents the contamination of food, water, medicine, among other essential products; and
- Workers supporting the operation and maintenance of facilities (particularly those with high risk chemicals and/or sites that cannot be shut down) whose work cannot be done remotely and requires the presence of highly trained personnel to ensure safe operations, including plant contract workers who provide inspections.
- Workers who support the production and transportation of chlorine and alkali manufacturing, single-use plastics, and packaging that prevents the contamination or supports the continued manufacture of food, water, medicine, and other essential products, including glass container manufacturing.

As such, we respectfully request that facilities, carriers, warehouses, terminals and other logistics facilities which support the above-noted functions be granted permission to continue operations, in compliance with controls and recommendations from the U.S. CDC to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

If there are any questions, please contact me at (301) 986-9700.

Respectfully,



William E. Allmond
President

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