

Empowering the manufacturing workforce

Key actions and insights from the advanced manufacturing and production community

October 2020

At **Parsable**, its manufacturing customers took quick advantage of digital work instructions for frontline employees that had updated health and safety steps embedded in the operating procedures themselves, which could then be quickly changed as government regulations and recommendations evolved.

At **Stanley Black & Decker**, operations sites virtually shared best practices including: socially distanced break rooms; clock in/out procedures; and maintaining social distance while working on the floor. Individually, sites collaborated with their workers on assembly line reconfiguration and machine barriers to reduce touch points. Knowing that the SBD family extended beyond the physical workplace, the company distributed PPE and sanitizer for workers to take home to their families to continue to encourage usage while not at work.

Throughout the COVID-19 global health crisis, **Johnson & Johnson** has remained open and operational, continuing to provide critical medicines, products and services to those they serve while protecting the health and safety of their people. The company instituted a variety of workplace enhancements to ensure the safety of employees who continued to work on-site, as well as for those who will be returning to the workplace. Johnson & Johnson employees are learning to live and work in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic by shifting their approach from responding to a new threat to adapting their ways of working. Across the globe, markets are in different stages of this pandemic, from continuing to work remotely to entering the various stages of returning to the workplace. As more people return to workplaces globally, Johnson & Johnson continues to prioritize the safety of our people.

Stanley Black & Decker has instituted regular “Safety Timeouts” to review the latest protocols and information about COVID-19. By allotting this time, it has given employees the space to ask questions and give feedback on how to continuously improve our procedures. Transparency and communication, particularly with our frontline workers, has been key to ensuring the physical safety and mental well-being of their employees.

At **Johnson & Johnson**, employees who cannot return to workplace or fulfill their hours during their designated wave due to issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, can explore their Flexible Work Arrangements, a guide designed to help balance personal priorities while meeting business needs. As employees return to the workplace in a gradual, phased approach by market, there will be safety measures in place. The company has prepared videos and required training to get a preview of the new behaviors, expectations and procedures that will help to protect the health and safety of their employees, as well as their families and our communities.

Tulip made manufacturing apps available to support manufacturing companies during the COVID-19 response. MasksOn, for example, built a distributed manufacturing and logistics system to ship more than 27,000 masks using Tulip as the backbone of its infrastructure. Other manufacturers like Terex, Beca Limited, and Piaggio Fast Forward, used Tulip to build automated COVID-19 scanning stations to ensure the safety of their frontline workers. Double H Nurseries used the platform to empower frontline workers to take safety measures in their own hands and reduce furloughs.

Leading players in the advanced manufacturing and production ecosystem came together to launch [MFG.works](#), an open community for manufacturing professionals. The goal of MFG.works is to provide manufacturing workers with an open space to connect, learn from each other, gain new skills, and advance their careers online.