



ISEA / VPPPA Joint Letter on Donation of Surplus PPE for Healthcare Workers

April 22, 2020

Dear VPPPA Members and Friends,

Our nation is undertaking a critical task. We are working diligently to protect our healthcare workers, first responders, and all essential workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic response. While the industry has stepped forward with an historic effort to increase supply of the necessary protective equipment, shortages persist. We are so grateful to VPPPA members for all you've done to support ongoing relief efforts.

The International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) recognizes your foresight and planning for the safety of your workers has helped with the effort to protect COVID-19 responders. ISEA has joined with VPPPA to ask that you continue to inventory your PPE and donate any surplus to help healthcare workers in your communities stay healthy and safe.

What is Needed

In the occupational health and safety community, there are many types of NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs). They are labeled with letters N (not oil-proof), R (oil-resistant) or P (oil-proof), followed by numbers 95, 99 or 100, designating filtration efficiency.

Employers around the country likely have these items on site. Together, ISEA and VPPPA ask those with sufficient inventory of FFRs for the next few months share the extra respirators with healthcare professionals in hospitals and facilities battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

How to Donate

ISEA and VPPPA have reached out to hospital associations and medical equipment representatives, who recommend that before donating to a local health care or first-responder facility, you reach out to their administrative offices or procurement personnel.

If you do not find a need locally, ISEA staff can put you in touch with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) personnel who organize voluntary relief efforts across the country.

We face historic challenges, but determination and ingenuity have already been exhibited by the occupational safety community around the world. We appreciate your ongoing dedication to helping those on the front lines of this global pandemic.

Sincerely,

Charles Johnson
President, ISEA

J.A. Rodriguez, Jr.
Chairman, VPPPA

About ISEA

ISEA is the association for safety equipment and technologies – equipment and systems that enable people to work in hazardous environments. For more than 85 years, ISEA has set the standard for personal protective technologies, supporting the interests of its member companies who are united in the goal of protecting the health and safety of people worldwide.

ISEA is a recognized leader in the development of ANSI-accredited safety equipment standards, in the U.S. and around the world. It works with Congress and government agencies to consult with policymakers whose decisions affect the industry. It is a forum for information sharing and industry action, providing market insight and advocating for the use of safety equipment to keep workers safe.

About VPPPA

The Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association, Inc. (VPPPA) - The Premier Global Safety and Health Organization™, is the leading organization dedicated to cooperative occupational safety, health and environmental management systems. VPPPA, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is a member-based association, providing a network of more than 2,300 companies and worksites who have achieved or are striving for occupational safety and health excellence, including the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) and the Department of Energy's (DOE) Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP).