

COVID-19

MESSAGE TO TOOLING TECH GROUP TEAM
September 23, 2020—DRAFT ONLY

The TTG Leadership team met last week to complete a strategy session to evaluate how we are performing to the second half of 2020 and setting the stage for a strong 2021. Below are examples of some of the actions we've taken to strengthen our business:

- ◆ Added Business Development Managers in each division to target and continue focus on new customer and market diversification.
- ◆ Continued Productivity initiatives that result in waste reduction and work flow efficiencies.
- ◆ Revamped our Purchasing council to improve pricing and supply chain management under the leadership of our Die Cast Division President, Dave Graves.
- ◆ Negotiated settlements with customers who have filed for bankruptcy restructure, to recoup money owed to us.
- ◆ Partnered with customers to improve our win rate percentage on high confidence awards, through frequent contact and follow up
- ◆ Building additions at Tooling Tech and GH Tool to accommodate an increased workload.

We've all been working very hard throughout this pandemic, and we've done a lot of things right. Thanks as always to each of you for your hard work, diligence, and loyalty throughout these challenging months. We are increasingly optimistic we'll see a more normal (maybe even stronger) backlog in 2021, as automotive programs are released and our newer customer lines develop.

What to do about the flu

Flu season is approaching, and because the symptoms of the flu are often the same as the symptoms of COVID-19, it will be difficult for anyone to know without a test if their cough or congestion or aches is influenza or COVID or bronchitis. So how are we going to handle this? Let's start with several strategies:

- 1. Avoid getting the flu.** Each TTG location is organizing flu shots for employees, or you can get this done on your own. Flu vaccines protect you from the strains of the virus most likely to be active this season—you may still get sick, but not as bad.
- 2. Keep doing what you're doing.** If you're wearing your mask, washing your hands, maintaining 6 feet distance from others and avoiding crowded spaces, all viruses are going to have a hard time reaching you—and spreading to those around you.
- 3. Be aware.** Some symptoms, such as losing your sense of taste or smell, are more specific to COVID. Be mindful of your surroundings and try to avoid places and situations where you're likely to catch something.
- 4. Play it safe.** If you feel sick, and/or have any reason to believe you have been exposed to COVID, stay home, and call in so we can work with you to make a plan for your safe return to work.
- 5. Stay calm.** You'll probably hear some coughing and sneezing from your coworkers, same as every other winter.

Wear your mask.
Wash your hands.
Watch your distance.



Be sure to check out the "Employee News" section of the TTG website www.toolingtechgroup.com - Find the link under the "About" tab on the main page and then enter the password: ***TTG2020*** (asterisks included)

FRIDAY. I feel great! Everyone around me seems healthy, this virus is overblown. No one else is wearing masks anyway and you gotta live, right? Had a busy day at work, spent some time with the grand-kids, ate dinner at my favorite pub—saw lots of friends.

SUNDAY. I'm feeling really tired and crummy all over, and I can't smell or taste anything.

WEDNESDAY. Test confirms I'm positive for COVID-19. Everyone I worked with on Friday, my family, my friends, everyone at the pub that night are all quarantined in their homes and watching for symptoms. We had to shut down work because so many people are out. My fever is 102 and I'm having a hard time breathing. I'm alone in my room, I can't even see my family. This is miserable. I wouldn't wish it on anyone.

FRIDAY. Had to go to the ER because I couldn't breathe. My son drove me so my wife wouldn't be exposed, and I wore two masks to be careful. The hospital admitted me, and put me on a respirator, and they're asking questions about my 'plans' that I can't answer without my wife. Five people I know have now tested positive too. I just hope I get a chance to tell them how sorry I am.

Outsmarting COVID-19

We learn more about COVID-19 every day, so yes, the best information keeps changing. The pandemic is dragging on way too long and it's frustrating.

But what hasn't changed is that **COVID spreads easily, and it affects people differently, and you can stop the spread** by wearing a mask, washing your hands and keeping at least 6 feet apart from people.

The odds are in our favor—most people don't become seriously ill or die—but there is no way to predict who will. People who are obese or have heart issues or diabetes are at a serious disadvantage to fight off this disease, but thousands of healthy people have died from it., too

So yes, chances are you don't have it. Chances are that mask you're wearing isn't holding back COVID-19 virus, it's just steaming up your glasses. But you're never going to know for sure until it's too late. You can infect people for two days before you have any idea you're sick. **The mask isn't for you, it's for everyone around you.** That piece of cloth is greatly improving the odds your family, friends, and coworkers will stay healthy. Wear it every time you are around people, and stop the spread. It makes a difference.

FRIDAY. I feel great! Everyone around me seems healthy, so far. but who knows with this thing? I wore my mask whenever I was around anyone at work, chatted with the kids on Zoom, and ordered pizza with "touchless" delivery— beautiful night on the deck.

SUNDAY. Got a lot done around the house. Made one quick trip to the hardware store but wore my mask and washed my hands afterward.

WEDNESDAY. Sounds like we're really seeing a spike in positive cases in my area. Really makes you cautious about being around other people, but 6 feet isn't that hard to manage most of the time.

FRIDAY. I feel great! Everyone around me seems healthy, so far. but who knows with this thing? I wore my mask whenever I was around anyone at work, sat up on a hillside apart from the crowd and watched my grandson's soccer game. Maybe I'll barbeque this weekend.

... it's not complicated.