

Nano Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard

## COVID-19: Nano Air Mask Ready to Supply American Businesses to Navigate a Safe Reopening

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With many U.S. businesses looking to reopen safely, employers are faced with new challenges to keep employees and customers safe to help prevent any new outbreaks while helping slow the spread of COVID-19. Nano Air Mask today announced that the first PURE-MSK respiratory masks are rolling off of the assembly line in the U.S. and are available for general purchase at NanoAirMask.com.

<u>PURE-MSK</u> is an FDA-cleared respirator mask made from nanofiber, one of the most technologically advanced filtration and air permeable materials available. PURE-MSK delivers an ideal combination of breathability and filtration against harmful airborne particulates, offering more protection than lightweight DIY face coverings or cloth masks and more comfort than traditional N95 masks that are double the weight and triple the thickness.

Lighter than a sheet of paper, PURE-MSK's nanofiber material filters out more than 95% of particulate matter that are the size of 0.3 microns or larger. One nanofiber strand (0.1 microns) is 1,000 times smaller than a strand of human hair (100 microns), enabling PURE-MSK's mask to block out harmful contaminants such as pollutants, smoke, allergens, aerosols, bacteria, and even water, while allowing for relatively unobstructed airflow through the mask.

Drawing upon their entrepreneurial backgrounds and international relationships, co-Founders Jonathan Malveaux and David Sajous identified the most technologically innovative and proven masks on the market today, and negotiated a deal to onshore the manufacturing to the U.S. so that the masks would be easily accessible to the American market. Facing a severe shortage for top quality respiratory masks, and with the need only growing, hospitals and government leaders were forced to turn to unproven distributors, resulting in price gauging and fraud.

With signs pointing to what might be the start of a second wave of COVID-19 in the U.S.,

Nano Air is ready to meet the demand with American-made masks sold and distributed directly to frontline health workers, businesses and the public through its exclusive distribution platform.

"Having spent several decades traveling back and forth from Asia, we saw first-hand the stark difference in preparedness and access to personal protective equipment (PPE) between the U.S. and countries in Southeast Asia," co-Founder Jonathan Malveaux states. "It was clear to us from Day One of the COVID-19 outbreak in Wuhan, <a href="China">China</a> that the U.S. would be unprepared to meet the demand for PPE as we looked to face an inevitable outbreak.

We also saw the disproportionate impact the pandemic was having on the Latinx and Black community, particularly in neighborhoods like the South Bronx where I was born and raised. We could not stand idle and simply watch these communities get ravaged by the coronavirus and not have adequate face masks to help keep them safe. That's why we have been working 24/7 to build domestic capacity to directly distribute millions of masks to those in need."

Nano Filter Inc, the manufacturer of PURE-MSK masks, is based in Long Beach, CA, and has answered the call to bring significant production of critical personal protective equipment onshore.

"We're excited to bring American-made PURE-MSK masks to market and make them available within the U.S.," said David Sajous, co-Founder of Nano Air. "Southeast Queens has always been my second home, and it was hit especially hard because a lot of our essential workers come from neighborhoods just like that, and those workers didn't have access to quality PPE. Our goal is to offer a trusted and viable solution to address the current shortage of proper face masks that will help slow the spread of COVID-19, avoid such supply issues in the future, and create a culture of protection for businesses and the general public."

"It was clear that Nano Air was the best partner for Nano Filter to achieve its goal of introducing and delivering high performance face masks into the U.S. market," Carl Jung, CFO, Nano Filter.

Read the original article on Business Wire.

