How do I obtain cloth or surgical masks for my employees who have to interact with the public?

A recent Executive Order from Governor Lamont directs “Any person in a public place in Connecticut who is unable to or does not maintain a safe social distance of approximately six feet from every other person shall cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face-covering.” There are a few ways in which this may be done.

- You may already have a source of masks and can provide them to your employees.
- Contact your local health department or the state Department of Public Health,
- You may be able to find a way to have staff make them internally.

Remember, highway and public works department workers are considered essential in the Executive Orders, and the US Department of Homeland Security has defined as first responders, those public works employees “that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations.”

The State of Connecticut has partnered with the United Way 2-1-1 of Connecticut to set up a framework for donations of PPE for first responders. Residents or local businesses wishing to donate may be directed to www.211ct.org/DonationsCOVID19.

Resources:

CDC Recommendation Regarding the Use of Cloth Face Coverings (includes a video tutorial on how to make a face covering)
Executive Order No. 7BB
https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7BB.pdf?la=en

Homeland Security Presidential Directive
https://fas.org/irp/offdocs/nsprd/hspd-8.html

Connecticut Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers

State of Connecticut COVID-19 Information Page
https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus

Making Your Own Masks: We can learn a lesson from the Cub Scouts:

[Image: Make a mask using your neckerchief]

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