

## Fighting medical supply constraints during this pandemic

### Terms:

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In the global fight against coronavirus (COVID-19), we face an incredible challenge: The critical medical equipment and supplies we need are in extremely short supply. Vendors and manufacturers around the world, many of whom are Avnet customers and partners, are rushing to meet the intense demand for ventilators, respiratory units and other vital equipment that hospitals and healthcare providers desperately need.

To fight a disease that keeps us apart physically, we need to come together in more innovative ways than ever before. Designer brands are now creating scrubs, alcohol companies are becoming hand sanitizer producers, people are sewing masks for healthcare providers and makers are creating open-source designs for ventilators out of their homes. We all have to contribute to end this pandemic, and at Avnet we're doing everything we can to help.

We're accelerating our customers' ability to provide lifesaving solutions by leveraging the Avnet ecosystem in their fight against COVID-19 — while keeping our employees safe and healthy.

We are working closely with our partners and customers to increase the overall supply of medical equipment, accelerating the production of the custom solutions and modules needed for respirators and medical-grade monitors for ICU ventilators used in infectious-disease wards. We are working both around the world and around the clock to help our customers find alternative component sources when faced with supply constraints. Because we can source, assemble, integrate and service medical devices and peripherals, our customers can focus their attention and resources on other urgent, critical needs.

This pandemic also requires new approaches, and we have activated our network to help in the development of vital equipment and testing technology. We are leveraging our global ecosystem and expertise to help both the public and private sectors develop new technologies and innovative methods to increase capacity in the production and distribution of ventilators, respiratory units and other vital equipment. And as always, the innovative thinkers in our online communities, [Hackster.io](#) <sup>(1)</sup> and [element14](#) <sup>(2)</sup>, are taking it upon themselves to help, too.

What's happening in our world today is unprecedented in our lifetimes. It is a call to arms for every individual, every family, every government and every company to do whatever is necessary to help each other get through the challenge before us.

I'm incredibly proud of our team's commitment to doing our part. It takes collaboration, ingenuity and grit to safely ramp up production during a pandemic, and our team is committed to doing everything we can to safely support this cause.

I want to personally thank everyone who has responded to the call — both inside and outside of Avnet. You have worked resolutely and around the clock to address the urgent needs facing individuals, families and communities around the world. Moreover, you have answered the call with conviction and, for those of you on the front lines, oftentimes with personal risk and sacrifice.

Whether you're shipping boxes in a warehouse, supporting the cause at home or caring for the sick, know that your work is making a difference, saving lives and ensuring our future.

Stay safe and be well.

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[1] <https://www.hackster.io/search?i=projects&q=covid19>

[2] <https://www.element14.com/community/docs/DOC-94763//project14-fighting-germs-build-projects-that-help-fight-or-prevent-the-spread-of-germs>