

PPE SUPPLIER WARNS OF SUB-STANDARD PRODUCTS

An Irish supplier of PPE and laboratory safety equipment has warned of the risks of sub-standard products entering the market as employers prepare a return to work. Lennox recently launched its 'Safe at Work' employee PPE kits, and is now mobilised to produce up to 100,000 kits per week.



The 'Safe at Work' kits include hand sanitisers, disposable and reusable masks, gloves, hand cream and computer screen wipes.

Many employers may be unaware of the rigorous standards to assure customers of the quality of personal protective equipment (PPE), according to Leslie Brett, Managing Director of Lennox. "Now, more than ever, it is vital that those standards are met. We are consistently finding and rejecting PPE products that do not reach those standards – from misleading or missing labels on products such as hand sanitiser to inadequately-certified masks."

Lennox has been supplying PPE to both private and public sectors for almost 100 years, and Brett said that their equipment is in strict compliance with European Quality Standards and government guidance. It is used by frontline health workers, the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, An Garda Síochána and the Department of Justice and Equality, among others.

In response to demands from corporate customers planning their employees' return to work, the medical and lab equipment supplier has launched its Safe at Work employee PPE kits and the company is mobilised to produce up to 100,000 kits per week.

PROPERLY-VETTED EQUIPMENT

Over the last two years, Lennox has made an investment of approximately €2m in increasing its warehousing, output capacity and logistics fleet. "The company is now best placed to deliver a reliable national supply of properly-vetted quality PPE to Irish businesses, and has also committed to donating ten customised kits for every 200 ordered to the Capuchin Day Centre for Homeless People until 1 August 2020," Brett added.

"As we prepare for the easing of lockdown restrictions, it is more important than ever that PPE is vetted properly by those with the correct experience and technical knowledge – those who know what background documentation to look for and what raw materials should be used. We're working closely with employers to make sure they are sourcing from trusted suppliers and will advise them on training of employees about correct usage."

Commenting on the company's Safe at Work kits, Brett said: "Our Quality, Scientific, Technical and Procurement teams have been hard at work, leveraging our Irish and international supply chain and our years of experience to source the highest quality of PPE for our customers.

"To ensure effectiveness, easy-to-follow instructions on handwashing and the correct use of masks and gloves will be shared both in the kits and across our digital platforms. We also have a dedicated customer care line to provide businesses with a tailored assessment and recommend the appropriate PPE for their specific requirements. Ultimately, we want

Irish businesses to have the correct toolkits in place so that Ireland can get safely back to work."

The customisable kits include hand sanitisers, disposable and reusable masks, gloves, hand cream and computer screen wipes. For further details visit www.lennox.ie/safeatwork.

QUALITY AND RELIABILITY

The Irish company specialises in supplying scientific, industrial and laboratory goods into a market that demands consistently high standards of quality and reliability, as well as the ability to be agile in the face of changing requirements.

Founded in 1923, Lennox supplies laboratories, schools and educational institutions with protective clothing, analytical and safety equipment and chemicals, and works with pharma, biotechnology, medical devices, life sciences, government bodies, food and beverage, healthcare and education sectors.

Employing 60 people across its sites in Dublin, Cork, Kells and the UK, in 2019, the company was named 'Laboratory Supplier of the Year' at the Irish Laboratory Awards.



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