

17th March 2020

Important Announcement Re: Coronavirus Outbreak

As the Coronavirus outbreak continues to increase in the United Kingdom and Europe and Governments are recommending restrictions on social interactions in the UK and many countries within Europe are closing their borders, we would like to make our customers, both current and potential aware of our position within the supply chain.

British Felt carries some of the largest stocks of wool based felts and polyester non-woven fabrics in the United Kingdom. Our stocks of raw materials are historically geared to demand, and due to the nature of the material and the length of time it takes to produce and be shipped into our factory we hold between 5 to 8 months stock on over 90% of our product base.

We have been advised by all our key supply chain partners, that production at their factories is as normal, and that movement of goods at this time by land from Europe and by sea from Asia is continuing as normal.

Our stock, as with many companies is only as good as the last order and sometimes demand can spike on certain materials causing an unusual shortage. If an order is received that we cannot fulfil within our normal manufacturing times due to a shortfall in raw material, please be assured that the lead times for stock replenishment have not been extended due to the viral outbreak and we will convey a solution to you very quickly.

Our workforce is conscientious and fully aware of the need to satisfy our customers. However, we are all part of the general population and limiting exposure to this outbreak is difficult for all.

Potentially we will experience a degree of staff shortages over the coming months where self-isolation becomes a priority.

Please be confident and know that ALL our staff are multi-skilled and ALL operations within our factory can be met by ALL our staff. All administrative functions can be performed off-site if needed.

Our manufacturing site will remain FULLY OPERATIONAL throughout this period, unless we, along with the rest of the country are forced to close temporarily by the authorities, which appears unlikely at this time.

Please be assured that we will endeavour to meet all requested due dates on all orders received, however there could be occasions where we may need to request a little extra time to produce more involved products that require multiple operations if we experience any staff shortages.

We will continue to monitor our position and provide updates as necessary

N.B Arpino Managing Director