

**April 28, 2020 - 10:00am ET**  
**Georgia Manufacturers Alliance - Task Force**

Host: Jason Moss, Founder and Executive Director GMA

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DISCLAIMER: These notes were taken by one of the participants and have not been approved or endorsed by any person or any entity mentioned herein, the Georgia Manufacturing Alliance, or Jason Moss. These notes serve as a helpful tool. It is the responsibility of the reader to confirm the facts. Statements in this report should not be quoted without confirmation by the author. Resources can be found at [www.georgiamanufacturingalliance.com](http://www.georgiamanufacturingalliance.com) via links and documents provided by guests and posted on the GMA website.

TIP: [www.buyfromgeorgia.com](http://www.buyfromgeorgia.com) - another GMA website!  
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**Welcome by Jason Moss - Today's topic is Manufacturing Task Force**

This is our fifth Task Force call. Our goal is to rally resources and available tools in the State of Georgia to combat the Corona COVID-19 virus, whether it be materials, supplies, resources, labor or creativity, and to connect industry leaders to share best practices. The purpose and mission is to find out how we can work together to win this battle. The Georgia State government is overloaded already but we as the Georgia Manufacturers can bring a lot to the table as well.

GMA is considered an essential business in the area of providing essential news. Please register online for these calls so we can send you the show notes as well as any other resources and links. For participant contact information, see member directory at GMA website.

**Let's hear from you, include your company name and contact information so we can contact you!**

**Michele Murphy - Benefits Resources, GMA member**

Group benefits - I have a local distributor for masks and other PPE who will hopefully be a GMA member soon! [mmurphy@beneresources.com](mailto:mmurphy@beneresources.com), 678-456-3554

**MacField Young - Ingenics Corp**

Industrial Engineering Consultant who can help with process improvement or transitioning your production to new products to fight the pandemic. [macfield.young@gmail.com](mailto:macfield.young@gmail.com), 315-540-7722

**John Harkonen - Util Auditors, GMA member**

Services we offer are timely and important right now - lower operational cost - auditing utility service cost, workmans comp out of whack - why pay workmans comp insurance without employees there,

waste management agreements - what are the current charges without waste to collect? About five areas are impacted by the pandemic. We identify revenue, reduce cost, n/c evaluation.  
[jhardonen@utilauditors.com](mailto:jhardonen@utilauditors.com), 678-644-1467

**Jessica Cook - Impact Workforce Solutions, GMA member**

We're helping manufacturers create workforce recovery plans which allows them to bring employees on full-time, without hiring them directly. This helps mitigate risk and liability as well as save money, all of which will be important during the second half of this year as we're forecasting and plan production needs. Your furloughed and laid off workforce, bring them back full time without hiring them yourself saves money.  
[jcook@impactws.com](mailto:jcook@impactws.com), 770-584-1069

**Jason Lammers - Grenzebach, GMA member**

We make material handling equipment for the manufacturing industry. I am responsible for selling sheet metal and fabrication work. Nothing specific to this pandemic but I'm here to learn who needs what. Anything metal we can make.  
[jason.lammers@grenzebach.com](mailto:jason.lammers@grenzebach.com), 770-254-3132

**LD DeKatch - FastSigns Snellville, GMA member**

Social Distancing signs - on doors, inside shops, seating signs, any communication signs. Also doing face shields, first for healthcare workers but now more for individual or small company use. Countertop shields for hotel lobbies, we can custom make these, or a shield to go over a mic stand. Plus the usual graduation signs and banners. Neighborhood social distancing graduation parades!  
[ld.dekatch@gastsigns.com](mailto:ld.dekatch@gastsigns.com), 678-395-5559

**Charlie Lunn - TenCate Geosynthetics**

First time on the call! We are still running, we have about 500 employees, no reported illnesses. We make non-woven fabric. For the official N95 masks, our materials wasn't fine enough so we are making hospital gowns. If someone needs PPE, call Charlie!  
[c.lunn@tencategeo.com](mailto:c.lunn@tencategeo.com), 706-693-1740

**Gene Kim - JX Nippon ANCI**

We have two manufacturing plants, one in Alabama and one in Dalton, GA. We mostly manufacture for <food> produce packaging and filtration. Lots of PPE aprons, medical apparel orders now, we need people who can help sew. 470-636-1060

**Connections made via GMA/Jason with Gene Kim:**

World Emblem - they are implementing our products with their masks.

Amanda Gray, GA Expo is contemplating having their own mask line, we are working with them as far as fabric options.

**Biff Hadden - (ret) Colonel:** I'm working with the Secretary of the Department of Defense.

I match service members, of any branch, with jobs as they are separating from their duty. We help them with resumes and match skills to your needs. n/c for our services, young service members

with graduate degrees in IT or engineering. We are a group of 20 people working with 5000 Veterans, young and old.

**TIP: 1 gallon jugs of hand sanitizer:** Mike Denehy, owner of Chattabrewchee Southern Brewhouse in Columbus. 315-408-3137, [mike@chattabrewchee.com](mailto:mike@chattabrewchee.com) located at 1301 16th Avenue, Columbus, GA. Courtesy of COL (ret) Biff Hadden.

**Joy Duncan, Exec Dir of Rehabilitation Industries of Northeast Georgia “RING”  
GMA Member**

We work with people with disabilities. We bring projects in-house that you can outsource to us. Sewing, labeling, has warehouse space. We are rather busy, doing work for essential providers. We can take on more new projects. We have a 12,000 sq ft warehouse with full packaging and assembly capabilities. [joy@rehabindustries.org](mailto:joy@rehabindustries.org), 404-502-1333

**Justin Hughes - Dieselgrid**

We focus on dedicated truck loads for manufacturers and distribution centers. Are now developing Zero Interaction capability for our customers during this pandemic. Anticipating a two week lag, when business gets back up/running. Two week lag to empty warehouse supplies and then we'll have lots of freight running again. [justinhughes@dieselgrid.com](mailto:justinhughes@dieselgrid.com), 678-798-6206

**Comment Jason Moss:**

- What is the most important part of a vehicle? Reality: the piece that is missing! So with KIA Automotive opening next week, its supply chain needs to be there to supply KIA.
- When we hear from Sloan at TieDown: their biggest thing is communication, employees and suppliers/customers.
- The State of Georgia has a webpage for needs, but they are looking for high quantities. Our goal is to connect you, let us know what you need or what you have.
- Justin Hughes and GMA are putting a standards project together. How to keep employees safe, keep their environment safe.
- On yesterday's town hall call yesterday, Sloan spoke about how they built a very safe environment for their employees.
- You are doing a lot of retooling, love to see the creativity.
- JS Chemical and Bobby Dodd Institute are doing business together! JS switched some of their production from chemicals to sanitizers.
- GA Expo switched from making expo booth dividers to hospital dividers and sewing masks.

**POLL - Which month are you personally ready to attend a trade show?**

- May - 1
- June - 3
- June/July - 1
- July - 1
- Aug - 2
- Sept - 2

**What have you learned from our GMA calls:**

**Jason Lammers:** biggest takeaway since this pandemic is gratitude, being thankful for little things, the things that keep our daily lives moving.

**Gene Kim:** short term need materials for producing hospital gowns. Key is supporting each other with needs or supplies. A life is a life, without a vaccine, we need to provide confidence.

**Charlie Lunn:** Ultimately, we started planning a while ago but guidance we get from different organizations has helped us a lot. The biggest issue in the beginning was lack of guidance on how businesses can operate.

**LD DeKatch:** Needs, in the beginning it was hard to find where to get our supplies for the new products. Now we know our niche and feel blessed to be able to get what we need. Participating on these calls to get information. How people are rallying to help each other out. In our neighborhood, people without family to check on them can post a red dot in their window if you need help! Companies calling us to ask how to best keep their employees safe. Have turnkey signs, no design needed, but we can customize it. Can send overview of signage and products and delivery vehicle decals about loading/off loading procedures. Just email LD.

**Joy Duncan:** A lot of employees have worked for us for a long time, we would love more work for employees to stay busy, they need to feel valuable, it takes a toll on those who are not working. We are cheaper than your employees' overtime costs.

**Sloan:** likes being able to share our stories, not to feel alone and isolated. Network of support gets me through the day. Likes to hear the tips/tricks on coping, your stories.

**MacField Young:** the kindness of everyone who is sharing

**Justin Huges:** everyone coming together, hearing each other's stories, this pandemic is worldwide so there is no outside source for aid. Us coming together, think globally/act locally. Closer with kids/wife now. Love this platform!

**John:** connect with people virtually, effective networking. The format is different but am getting good saturation from attendees as far as communication.

**Closing comments Jason Moss:**

- Tomorrow's virtual networking call at 10am for members only, please register.
- Thursday is our relaunch call, how you are relaunching your business - great for Charlie Lunn and Sloan to give info on bringing their companies back up. Holly Gotfredson will be our guest from American Metalcraft will be joining us.

**Please comment on my LinkedIn post - like and comment!!!**

Invite non-GMA businesses to join in our calls so we can learn from each other.

**Great to hear about new ways of coping with Shelter-in-Place:**

1. Red dot in your window alerts neighbors that you need help.
2. Neighborhood parades for graduates