

Lockington, Elliott (SPAC/PSPC)

From: Taipalus, Madison (SPAC/PSPC)
Sent: April 1, 2020 1:08 PM
To: Ann-May Cheng
Subject: RE: Production of hospital gowns

Hi Ann-May,

Thank you for reaching out. I am the adviser for the West and North of Canada so I have sent this to my counterpart who covers procurement opportunities in Ontario. Have you applied to <https://buyandsell.gc.ca/calling-all-suppliers-help-canada-combat-covid-19> yet? If so, can you share your reference number from the application? These are the specifications for gowns needed from PSPC:

Gowns and coveralls

Specifications for surgical and medical gowns, and coveralls

Vendors/manufacturers should be ready, upon request, to specify:

- the level or class that the gowns or coverall are classified to
- the methods of evaluation used to classify the products
- the level of risk (Low Risk and High Risk) as identified below

	North American Standards		European equivalencies			
	CSA Z314 (Canada) and ANSI PB70 (USA)		EN 13795, for Gowns		EN 14126, for Coveralls	
	Classification	Standard / Testing	Classification	Standard / Testing	Classification	Standard / Testing
Low Risk	Level 1 Minimal water resistance (some resistance to water spray)	AATCC 42 - Water penetration ≤ 4.5 g	Standard Performance	EN 20811 – Hydrostatic pressure • Less critical areas ≥ 10cm • Critical areas ≥ 20cm	Class 1	ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral): No penetration at 0 kPa
		AATCC 127 - Hydrostatic pressure N/A			Class 2	ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral): No penetration at 1.75 kPa

	<p>Level 2</p> <p>Low water resistance (resistant to water spray and some resistance to water penetration under constant contact with increasing pressure)</p>	<p>AATCC 42 - Water penetration ≤ 1.0 g</p> <p>AATCC 127 - Hydrostatic pressure ≥ 20cm water column</p>			<p>Class 3</p> <p>ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral):</p> <p>No penetration at 3.5 kPa</p>
					<p>Class 4</p> <p>ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral):</p> <p>No penetration at 7 kPa</p>
High Risk	<p>Level 3</p> <p>Moderate water resistance (resistant to water spray and some resistance to water penetration under constant contact with increasing pressure)</p>	<p>AATCC 42 - Water penetration ≤ 1.0 g</p> <p>AATCC 127 - Hydrostatic pressure ≥ 50cm water column</p>	High Performance	<p>EN 20811 – Hydrostatic pressure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less critical areas ≥ 10cm • Critical areas ≥ 20cm 	<p>Class 5</p> <p>ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral): No penetration at 14 kPa</p>
	<p>Level 4</p> <p>Blood and viral penetration resistance (2 psi)</p>	<p>ASTM F1670 (Blood) & F1671 (Viral):</p> <p>No penetration at 2 psi (13.8 kPa)</p>			<p>Class 6</p> <p>ISO 16603 (Blood) & 16604 (Viral): No penetration at 20 kPa</p>

Thank you,

Madison Taipalus

Regional Advisor- Western and Northern Canada

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From: Ann-May Cheng [mailto:tamainc88@gmail.com]
Sent: April 1, 2020 12:23
To: Taipalus, Madison (SPAC/PSPC) <madison.taipalus@canada.ca>
Subject: Production of hospital gowns

Hi Madison,

Hope all is well.
I've left a message on your voice mail regarding production of hospital gowns.

We are so eager to help, as we have the manufacturing and man power ready to start yesterday:)

Kindly call my cell number [REDACTED]
Looking forward to hear back from you.

Thanks

Sincerely,
Ann-May Cheng
President

TAMA Designs Inc.
23 Jenet Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
Canada
M6H 1R5

Tel: (416) 504-7326
Fax: (416) 504-7321
Email: tamainc88@gmail.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ann-May Cheng <tamainc88@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Gowns & Mask - ready for production
Date: March 28, 2020 at 2:50:44 PM EDT
To: "Logan, Tim (IC)" <tim.logan@canada.ca>
Cc: "Taipalus, Madison (SPAC/PSPC)" <madison.taipalus@canada.ca>

Hi Tim,

Thanks again for your reply! I hope to see some light at the end of the tunnel.

Hi Madison- nice to meet you.

I have not personally reach out to individual hospitals, was not sure if I was allow to do that without having any authorization from Health Canada.

Also, whom to contact at hospital level to assure mask will be distributed evenly?

I was afraid, If i had reached out myself, each hospital will want custom work, have too much input as to design, colour, fabrication....etc. That would take forever to customize for everyone.

Are you saying, each hospital purchases their own gowns and mask?

It's not all purchase by Health Canada than distributed to the hospitals? Pls advice.

A few of my friends, doctors and nurses are working on the frontline, they have reached out to me.

These are employees from four different local hospitals. I could not bare to just sit and not help them.

On Monday, I am starting production on my own out of good will.

Aiming to make 2000 masks. My plan is to donate 200 - 300 mask per hospital for now.

I couldn't find on the internet, how many staff are employed in each hospital?

If you have a source that I can obtain this info. Kindly share.

This way, I will have an indication of how many to send to each hospital.

Just yesterday, several of my own customers, local designers in high end clothing, are asking me to produce gowns and masks for them.

However, getting into custom work, it will slow down my production.

My goal is to get mask and gown out there as fast as possible. I have already secure fabrics and patterns all ready to go.

It would be more comforting and effective if I have the support from the government so that we can go full steam.

(I will not be able to fund all the materials, and labour costs myself for volume production)

However, I have enough resources, labour forces to make this all happen quickly.

We are located in Toronto in a 12,000 sq. ft facility. Would save so much time in shipping to all local hospitals. We are within 1/2 hour to downtown.

I have many smaller factories in Scarborough, Mississauga, Vaughan, all local factories that does work for me.

Therefore, if you add up all my work force, will be well over 200 people. I have been in business for 26 years, it's a small industry.

You can easily call all suppliers and ask about TAMA DESIGNS. I know this business inside out.

I really didn't know whom to turn too, therefore reaching out to Tim, he was the 3rd person that called me from government dept.

and the only one that replied back.

Madison, hoping you can help make a difference. Our frontline workers are all calling for help.

Thanks to both of you for hearing me out. I really appreciated.

BTW: If I am doing or saying anything against the law..... we never spoke!

Sorry to bother both of you on a week-end!
Please stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,
Ann-May Cheng
President

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On Mar 28, 2020, at 1:00 PM, Logan, Tim (IC) <tim.logan@canada.ca> wrote:

Hi Anne-May – while I don't have contact info for any of our procurement officials, I'd like to introduce you to Madison, my counterpart in Minister Anand's office (who is responsible for procurement).

Madison – Tama Designs is a Toronto-based clothing manufacturer that is looking to produce gowns and masks. I believe Anne-May has already submitted the procurement form.

Also – Anne-May – have you been in touch with any of the local hospitals or health authorities? I imagine they would be looking to procure such supplies and might be a little less overwhelmed with offers than the federal procurement folks.

-Tim

From: Ann-May Cheng <tamainc88@gmail.com>
Sent: March 28, 2020 11:52 AM
To: Logan, Tim (IC) <tim.logan@canada.ca>
Subject: Re: Gowns & Mask - ready for production

Hi Tim,

No need to apologize, I am so grateful to get a reply from you. I can image, a crazy time for everyone.

I have already fill out that form from your link below since last Friday 3/20th the same day our PM made the announcement.
I thought that was the reason I was receiving calls from your department.

I also spend endless hours every evening going through all the tenders, I didn't find any related to gowns/scrubs or masks?
Its was a lot of reading and I am exhausted:(

The past few days, a lot of my customers are all calling me to make gowns and mask for them, but
I much rather do volume for higher efficiency, and can turn around much faster.

Another week already went by and I am beating myself up, thinking i could have already supplied
hospital workers with at least a face mask.
Every day this gets delay, the more risk we put our frontline workers lives in danger:(

Can you please give me the contact and telephone number, of the person in charge of awarding these contracts?
I don't want to waste anyone's time by talking to the wrong person.

Tim, please do what you can to help me convince them. I will not let you down!
I feel completely helpless, I need my handcuffs removed:)

Looking forward to your reply.
Thank for your time, sorry to vent on you.

Sincerely,
Ann-May Cheng
President

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On Mar 27, 2020, at 10:48 PM, Logan, Tim (IC)
<tim.logan@canada.ca> wrote:

Hi Anne – likewise! I apologize for the delay, it’s been a long day over here. I’ve attached the WHO spec sheet that Health Canada is working from – but you would likely have to refer to the standards listed in the rightmost column to find the full spec sheets.

Here is a [link](#) to the COVID Buy & Sell portal, best to fill that out so Procurement Services know that you have available capacity.

Here as well is the Health Canada licensing email:
hc.devicelicensing-homologationinstruments.sc@canada.ca.
They’ll be able to assist you with the specifics of gown and mask licensing, etc.

Hopefully that helps, and feel free to reach out if you have any other questions!

-Tim

From: Ann-May Cheng <tamainc88@gmail.com>
Sent: March 27, 2020 2:31 PM
To: Logan, Tim (IC) <tim.logan@canada.ca>
Subject: Fwd: specs of mask & gowns

Hi Tim,

It was nice talking to you today.
I mentioned, you are the 3rd person that called from your department this week.

Hopefully, there will be a decision made ASAP. We are wasting precious time as every day passes:(

Can you please send me the link from Health Canada to obtain the guide lines for mask and gowns. Looking forward to hear confirmation to become a legit supplier, so I can sleep better:(

Talk soon and stay safe!!

Sincerely,
Ann-May Cheng

President

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