

Coronavirus

**ISO supports ventilator manufacturing by opening access to its standards**

On April 3, 2020, on a proposal from AFNOR, the International Organization for Standardization decided to open access to a series of voluntary standards useful for manufacturing equipment such as respirators.

Nearly 30 documents are [available online](#) to facilitate the changes in activities of all manufacturers who have chosen to come in to support the production of respirators, necessary for the survival of the most seriously affected Covid-19 patients.

This initiative complements that initiated by the European Committee for Standardization which, from March 20, made available [standards relating to the manufacture of surgical masks and FFP2](#) as well as other medical devices and protective equipment.

In France, AFNOR has made a free downloadable [new model of protective mask, called “barrier mask” intended for the healthy population](#) . Produced in 7 days with the help of 150 experts, this document has been downloaded 75,000 times since March 27 and supports the initiatives of numerous textile companies and individuals. It is also available [in English language](#) .

**The AFNOR group**

An international group, established in 14 cities in France, the AFNOR group designs and deploys solutions based on voluntary standards, these consensual documents serving economic development and innovation. With 90% of voluntary standards now being developed at the European or international level, AFNOR's role as a national standardization body is essential to represent and defend the interests of French economic players, in the service of the general interest. As a provider of professional monitoring, training, benchmarking, certification and assessment solutions, the group also operates in the competitive field in more than 100 countries.

With 1,250 employees worldwide and 77,000 customers, the AFNOR group positions itself as a vector of trust for public actors and organizations in general.

The general management of the AFNOR group is ensured by Olivier Peyrat.

[www.afnor.org](http://www.afnor.org)

Press contact: Olivier Gibert – +33 01 41 62 85 55 – [presse@afnor.org](mailto:presse@afnor.org)