









FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 15, 2020

CONTACT
Paul Vetter
(614) 406-4968
Paul.vetter@fahlgren.com

Ohio Manufacturing Alliance Brings Companies Together to Produce 1 Million Face Masks

Provides face coverings to support Ohio's reopening

COLUMBUS, OHIO – The Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19 today announced that Ohio firms have come together to produce 1 million cotton face masks within 10 weeks. The washable masks will be distributed to the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction and to local governments for use by first responders and other local government employees.

The effort facilitated by the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance includes the following companies that have repurposed and retooled to sew masks:

- **Superb Industries**, Sugarcreek, which typically manufactures components for the automotive, appliance, security, and energy industries
- Original Mattress Factory, Cleveland, which makes mattresses and box springs
- Ohio Awning, Cleveland, which manufactures custom awnings for homes and businesses
- Goodwill Industries, Akron, which has adapted its operations for sewing aprons, laundry bags, backpacks and more
- Carriage House Printery, Akron, a custom fabric printing company

In addition, MAGNET, The Manufacturing Advocacy and Growth Network that serves manufacturers in Northeast Ohio, helped secure fabric to support mask production. Most of the masks will be distributed through the State of Ohio.

"Through the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19, businesses all over the state are adapting and collaborating to meet the challenge," said **Eric Burkland**, president of <u>The Ohio Manufacturers' Association</u>. "This project reflects the success of the Alliance in guiding manufacturers to help them adapt operations and personnel to produce in-demand products."

Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19 Page 2 of 2

"It's gratifying that the Alliance is continuing to build momentum in the fight against COVID-19," said **Ethan Karp**, president and CEO of <u>MAGNET</u>. "Since launching April 1 we have engaged more than 2,000 Ohio manufacturers and announced projects to make face shields and testing swabs as well as these masks."

For more information, visit <u>RepurposingProject.com</u>. To find masks, gloves, personal protective equipment, and other related products, visit the <u>Ohio Emergency PPE Maker's Exchange</u>.

###