

COVID-19: Important Message for GPCA Members

Dear Member,

2020 has got off to a tumultuous start as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread, endangering the lives and health of people around the world, challenging the development of the global economy, and putting businesses, communities and people's livelihoods at risk.

The chemical industry in the Arabian Gulf has demonstrated that it is an essential lifeline to fighting this pandemic, and I commend all our members and partners for their extensive efforts to safeguard the supply of raw materials so vital to saving people's lives, despite significant disruptions to the supply chain and various related restrictions.

GPCA has introduced a number of measures in response to the global health crisis and the limitations currently in place to organizing group gatherings and events. You can read our full response here: www.gpca.org.ae/covid-19

These are challenging times for us all, and our small team at GPCA is truly inspired by the response from our member companies during this emergency.

From the funds donated to help abate the crisis at its outbreak in China to ensuring that tens of production facilities across Europe and the US are up and running to manufacture hand sanitizers, most of which are donated for free to hospitals and health institutions, chemical manufacturers have demonstrated great agility and rapid response to help equip governments, hospitals, and households across the world with the essentials needed to combat the virus.

The chemical industry in the region has demonstrated great cooperation in response to the measures put in place by governments in the Arabian Gulf by adopting flexible modes of work with no detrimental impact on production, which will undoubtedly play a key role in containing the virus and save lives further down the line.

To our friends, members and partners in all corners of the globe who too are battling with the virus and its unfolding ramifications to their companies and business, we extend our sympathy and reassure you that you are not alone. Although we are miles apart, we've never been more connected and united in our efforts to overcome this grave challenge.

Through the exchange of vital knowledge and information, through sharing best practices and robust communication, I am confident that together we can ensure the industry is seen in a radically new light by both regional governments and consumers for what it truly is – a strong pillar of the economy and a sector that is highly innovative, responsible, and resilient.

The real repercussions of the pandemic and its economic impact are yet to be revealed but the chemical industry – as a solutions provider to some of the world's toughest challenges – thrives in an environment of constant change and is well equipped to face current and future disruptions. I am therefore confident that together we can overcome this crisis too.

Wishing health and wellness to each of you, your families and national company teams.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Abdulwahab Al-Sadoun
Secretary General, GPCA