



SMFACTS



Issue #20

Message from the SMF's Metal, Machinery and Engineering (MME) Industry Group Chairman, Mr James Wong

Dear fellow members,

COVID-19 has led to challenging times for all businesses. As a global phenomenon, it has affected the whole world, and Singapore naturally has not been spared. Its volatile nature implies many uncertainties ahead.

What can we do to mitigate this crisis?

The Government has provided some financial assistance to help cushion the businesses during this rough journey and the country unfortunately has to dig into our hard-earned reserves to finance the cost.

However, there is some limit on how far this will sustain us, so we must be prudent and value every cent we get. We must also work on strategies to keep our operations alive. The objective of this financial assistance is to try to ease cash flow issues for companies so that their operations can continue without having to lay off workers.

Other forms of assistance also include the enactment of law to get companies to be more accommodating on contractual defaults caused by the COVID-19 crisis. With this additional breathing space, I hope all can work harder on finding options that can keep our businesses afloat.

This crisis is unlikely to ease off soon as the world waits for a medical solution. Scientists all over the world are working hard on a breakthrough vaccine. The best option now is to try and contain the situation as we commit our resources to doing our best during this circuit-breaker. We need all to participate to achieve the desired result of the circuit breaker.

Let us all stay safe during this time. I look forward with eager anticipation to a time when this turbulence is over, where our manufacturers can demonstrate to the rest of the world our resilience as well as the adaptations we have made during this time to embrace the economy of the future.

Wishing you good health,

James Wong
Chairman, MME Industry Group
Singapore Manufacturing Federation

More about the Metal, Machinery and Engineering Industry Group

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MOM Advisory for Employers of Workers in Dormitories

Please note that if your work pass holders are staying at a Factory Converted Dormitory, or a Construction Temporary Quarter, or a Temporary Occupation Licence Quarter, this advisory will apply to you.

In recent days, more cases of COVID-19 have involved foreign work pass holders in these places of residence. There is serious risk of widespread outbreak in your facility.

To limit the spread of disease, the Ministry of Manpower has released a series of advisories for employers of workers in the facility types above. Click the button below to learn more.

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