

## Hi Bruce,

Grace Engineered Products supports Iowa, Illinois, and Federal efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including restrictions on mass gatherings and "shelter-in-place" orders. We have embraced the various guidance on social distancing, good hygiene, and teleworking where possible with our staff.

We, however, believe that manufacturing, including that done by our company, qualifies as an "essential business" within the purposes outlined in any emergency declarations todate.

Our local and national response to coronavirus depends on the continued manufacturing operations of our company.

In the current public emergency, many essential manufacturing firms including those producing pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, food and beverage, energy, and steel products need to ramp up their production lines to meet increased demands created by this emergency. Grace Engineered Products produces products that are on the specifications for manufacturing equipment used by these firms. Failure to manufacture and ship these items to these firms will preclude their ability to increase needed production of critical items.

For these reasons, we have designated Grace Engineered Products as an "essential" business who provides materials supporting firms critical to the nation's efforts to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Bryan P. Van Itallie

Chief Operations Officer

**GRACE ENGINEERED PRODUCTS, INC.**