



## Department of Defense Awards Teel Plastics \$6.8 Million Contract to Produce COVID-19 Testing Components

For Immediate Release.

Contract will increase Teel's production capacity for injection molded flock-tipped and extruded foam-tipped COVID-19 testing swabs.

October 19, 2020

The Department of Defense, in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services, awarded a \$6.8 million contract action to Teel Plastics LLC, a technically advanced and US-based producer of plastic medical products, to expand their industrial production capacity for injection-molded and extruded swab sticks. This expansion is needed to support an increased production rate of test swabs for COVID-19 test kits and to ensure sufficient domestic swab manufacturing capacity and supply for potential future pandemics.



*Teel Plastics headquarters in Baraboo, WI*

This industrial base expansion effort will allow Teel Plastics to increase their production capacity an additional 50 million injection-molded swab sticks and 66-million extruded swab sticks per month by March 2021 to support domestic COVID-19 testing.



*Teel's injection molding machines running on the production floor at the company's headquarters*

Teel Plastics will base this enhanced production capacity in Baraboo, Wisconsin in support of the continued effort spearheaded by the DOD's Joint Rapid Acquisition Cell (formerly Joint Acquisition Task Force). The Joint Rapid Acquisition Cell is contracted by the Department of Air Force Acquisition Organization and funded through the Health Care Enhancement Act (HCEA) to enable and support domestic industrial base expansion for critical medical resources. Teel's contract supports a major increase in volume for a market the company has been serving for over forty years.



*Teel injection molded and extruded swabs*

In addition to test swabs, Teel is also manufacturing an array of other products used in the fight against COVID-19. These include components for medical breathing devices that help create humidified air for patients and oral hygiene kits that prevent secondary infections in patients on respirators. Teel also manufactures plastic film cores used in the production of IV bags, medication bags, and pharmaceutical packaging. These cores are used in a cleanroom environment where cardboard cores are unsuitable because of their tendency to create dust and debris.

Tom Thompson, Teel's president, said, "We are very proud and excited to be able to produce these critically needed swab products in the nation's fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. Our employees

have been at the forefront of this battle since March and have produced over 500 million swab sticks to date, and this added capacity will allow us to increase production to provide the country with the needed swab sticks for use in Covid-19 test kits. This new capacity will require over 50 additional employees to be hired at Teel, and we are hiring now for these positions.”

About Teel Plastics:

Teel Plastics is a premier manufacturer of custom extruded and injection molded plastic products due to the expertise of their distinguished, skilled team – a group of problem solvers known for being professional, progressive, and personable. Specializing in complex projects, Teel produces high-quality custom parts in a wide variety of sizes with tight tolerances. Teel focuses on the medical, cosmetic, industrial piping, film core, and water treatment markets. In addition, there is a full-service analytical laboratory on campus. Founded in 1951, Teel is headquartered in Baraboo, WI. For more information, visit [www.teel.com](http://www.teel.com).