

3M and Stanley Black & Decker (SBD) with Ford collaborated to bring Scrappy powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) to health care professionals. During this virtual series session 3M & SBD shared insights into the collaboration process and what mechanisms allowed for rapid business and supply chain innovation.

The problem: The demand for the powered air purifying respirators increased several factors and was too big for 3M to take on alone, despite 3M's effort to scale up respirator production. It was clear there was an imminent need for a creative solution.

The solution: 3M brought the expertise in safety and respiratory, Ford adapted automotive components in their supply chain to suit the product, and Stanley Black & Decker provided batteries as the power source. Together they delivered the product napkin to production in 40 days.

I believe that complex issues require multiple technologies to come together into one single, cohesive solution. Companies and people need to be open-minded about where to get those technologies and have a mentality of integrating existing solutions, as opposed to inventing every aspect of the product.

Bhanu Gorti, VP of Engineering,
Electronics, Stanley Black and Decker

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Corporate Responsibility was already embedded into the values of these three organizations. This culture and purpose allowed taskforces to identify the opportunity build teams empowered to make smart decisions.
- The nature of COVID's impact is "everywhere, anybody, and now." This ignited a sense of urgency and trust across the three companies, enabling them to expedite the standard process and checkpoints inherent in product development.
- The demand for PAPR far outstripped supply which made clear volume expectations among the 3 companies possible from the get-go.
- The strategic sustainability frameworks built into 3M and SBD positions these organizations well to apply collaboration to other global issues moving forward by moving with agility.
- The majority of complex problems can be solved with collaboration and integration of existing solutions.
- This case study has proven that capacity and talent already exist to apply a solution to an urgent problem, demonstrating what could be accomplished through collaboration across a range of sustainability challenges.

SPEAKERS

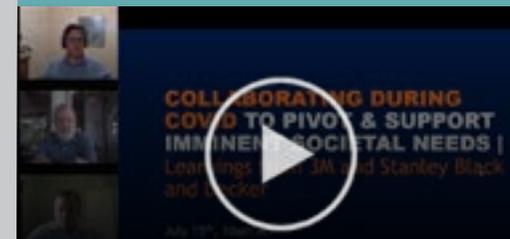
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