

CAR ACCESSORIES MAKER TO MAKE FACE SHIELDS

Vital plastic face shields needed to protect frontline health workers and supermarket staff from COVID-19 will be produced in Australia at the rate of hundreds of thousands per day in the next few weeks.

Queensland automotive accessory manufacturer EGR Group has switched its operations to producing the protective face shields.

It says it will be churning out the shields at the rate of hundreds of thousands a day from late April for domestic and international use, removing the need for Australia to import the products from overseas.



The face shields will also be useful for staff in the retail sector, in particular those stocking shelves and walking through aisles, the company said.

“We’re the only company in Australia that manufactures this type of material on a mass scale,” EGR Group Director Rod Horwill said.

“We already produce thousands of tonnes of plastic sheeting a year for the automotive industry in Australia and globally.”

The company said it was now planning to create a new personal protection equipment division to supply the local health industry into the future.

“With the automotive industry slowing as a result of the pandemic, this innovative approach of fast-tracking our research and development into this much-needed health product means we’re able to provide job security for up to 800 Queenslanders,” Mr Horwill said.

“The face shields are designed, developed and manufactured right here in Brisbane with export opportunities in the US, New Zealand, South Pacific and Papua New Guinea.

“We’ve already received inquiries from the health sector in the US as they too face this ongoing global health crisis.”