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Coronavirus Communication – update 18.03.2020

To whom it may concern

This note is a further update to the communication dated 02.03.2020.

In the last 10 days Covid -19 has been declared a pandemic and the epicentre is now in Europe, not China and is spreading to the UK in increasing numbers. This is affecting the movement of people with restrictions on travel and necessitating different work practises being put in place to ensure a safe working environment.

The global Supply Chain which encompasses both product and freight has been closely monitored by our Teams since the beginning of this outbreak in China. Every "special" part is being scrutinised by these Teams daily focussing on the level of stock that ensures we meet our commitments to you. Every vendor including our own manufacturing sites has been mapped per country of origin to assess risk, and the parts supplied closely monitored.

We are seeing that Chinese suppliers, a small part of our Supply Chain, are back manufacturing and shipping product to us without any issues. Our attention is now focussed on other areas where the Coronavirus may have an impact on supply. Once again, we have adequate stocks to maintain supply.

As in previous communications we have committed to advising you if we have an issue in supplying parts. We will advise you long before it becomes an issue and we can work together to mitigate the risk and develop a Plan B. So far, we have not had to do this.

We have 32 locations globally and our concern has also been for the safety and wellbeing of our staff. We have had an Emergency response plan in place since the SARS virus, but this has now been upgraded to a Covid-19 Task Force and encompasses Board members and key heads of functions who meet daily on Skype. All the relevant health and safety requirements are in place, and key staff can work remotely with full access to our systems should they need to be based at home to ensure business continuity. We will adapt to the situation as it evolves.

We hope you; your staff and families stay safe and well too during this very difficult time.

Glenda

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