



**Coatings & Adhesives Corporation**

1901 Popular St NE

Leland, NC 28451

800-462-4295

04/03/2020

## **Statement on Antimicrobial Coating and COVID-19**

Coatings & Adhesives Corporation's ***Antimicrobial Coating*** is intended to prevent mold growth on the inside of soap cartons and not as a deterrent to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The COVID-19 crisis has generated a lot of interest in '**antiviral**' coatings for potential use in the graphic arts printing industry. The COVID-19 virus mainly spreads from person-to-person contact and through airborne droplets produced while coughing or sneezing. Next to direct transmission from person-to-person contact, indirect transmission from contaminated surfaces is also a well-documented and an important route of infections. The virus can be transmitted when a person touches germs that have settled on an object or surface. It is during this stage that an antiviral surface could play a significant role to help in cutting down on the spread of the virus.

With the pandemic proportions we see with the COVID-19 virus, a reinvigorated drive for products that can slow the progress of the disease spread is being sought after and inquired about. Several materials are currently being tested for antiviral properties. Nano particles containing silver, copper and zinc that are known to have antiviral properties are being investigated for this application. To be effective in a coating, antiviral materials must be on the surface and in direct contact of the virus. Graphic arts coatings are made to protect the decorative and functional properties of a package, and in traditional formulation particles within the coating are effectively sealed, preventing exposure on the surface, which makes them ineffective as an antiviral deterrent. This is one obstacle that needs to be addressed along with identifying appropriate materials that will be effective in order to produce antiviral coatings.

Coatings & Adhesives is working on the research and development of antiviral products. Our employees and customers are important to us, and we encourage everyone to practice the guidelines of the CDC and WHO including avoiding contact with others, social-distancing and good hygiene practices of washing frequently.