



# European Brushware Federation

## FEIBP STATEMENT

### COVID-19 / BRUSHWARE PRODUCTS VITAL FOR THE SUPPLY CHAIN

23 March 2020

COVID-19 is the largest challenge faced by society and public health for many years.

It is threatening businesses across the world, as the result of unavoidable measures taken to limit the movement of people and spreading the virus further. This situation is likely to intensify in the coming weeks.

President of the European Commission (EC) Ursula von der Leyen made it clear that we need coordinated measures to protect the health of European citizens, but also to ensure that essential goods – especially food and medicines - and services are able to flow freely.

As the crisis deepens a lockdown approach has been chosen by some European countries. Prime Minister Conte of Italy announced the shutting down of all production/professional Activities not strictly necessary in the entire Italian territory. A list of essential activities (e.g. alimentary industry - health/safety industry and alike) is being prepared

FEIBP represents 350 companies in the field of brushware manufacturing all over Europe.

Our businesses supply cleaning and sanitation product to hundreds of thousands of other essential businesses, including hospitals and medical care facilities, medical supply companies and the defense, aerospace, energy, food processing and equipment industries, and others in the supply chain. Products from our industry keep hospitals and health care workers clean, safe and protected against infection.

This is an appeal to the European Commission, the EU member states and other European governments to recognize the brushware industry as essential in the supply chain, a vital sector that is necessary for the security and the continuity of economic and social life. We are committed to keep on supplying in a chain where raw materials supply and logistics are secured in order to deliver the basic needs to the citizens.

To do this, we absolutely need workers to be free to carry out the physical work that supports supply chains. We keep on operating with the health of our employees as the top priority.

With kind regards,

Fons J.M. Ceelaert  
General Manager