

Family Business Responses to COVID-19

**Family Businesses care.
Family Businesses are committed to making a difference in their communities and societies.
Family Businesses always look to play their part.**

This was no different during the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Family Businesses across Europe did their bit to help. Many changed their production whilst others provided services and their workforce to make a difference.

This document explores case studies from across Europe on how family businesses played their part to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in their own countries and further across Europe.



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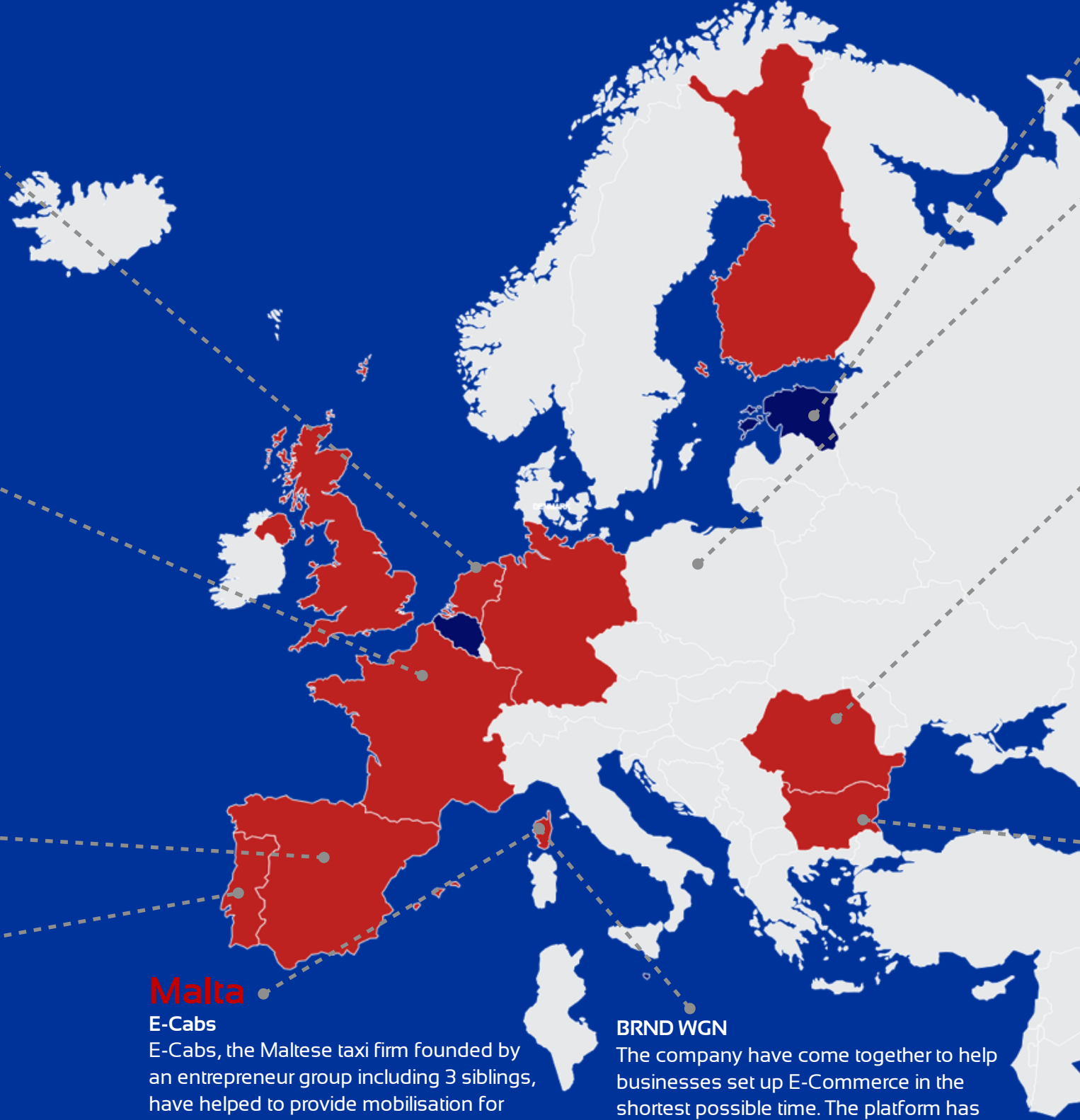


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EUROPEAN
FAMILY
BUSINESSES

Logistics



The Netherlands

Louwman

Online car salesman auto.nl, part of the Louwman Group, launched a campaign to provide car-free carers who were dependent on public transport with a temporary free car. The company has provided over 700 cars to carers.

Molecaten

Now there are little to no holiday guests, Molecaten have rented their holiday homes as offices for businesses, fitted with Wifi, electricity and all the office essentials.

France

HEPPNER

Founded in 1925, Heppner is the independent leader in international trade to and from France. A specialist in transport and logistics solutions, HEPPNER has over 70 sites in France.

Although strongly impacted by the current health crisis, Heppner wanted to maintain its activities and the group has made more than 7,000 deliveries to pharmacies, hospitals, clinics and old people's homes thanks to the unwavering mobilisation of its teams and the commitment of its leaders.

Spain

ALSA

ALSA is the leading operator in the Spanish sector of road-based passenger transport, offering a fleet of 3,465 buses. During the COVID-19 crisis, ALSA made its fleet of vehicles available to the Military Emergency Unit (UME). These buses were used to cover the needs for transfers that arose in the time of the health crisis.

Portugal

Luis Simões

In the months of March and April, LS managed the transport and distribution of more than 25,500 tons of essential good including food products, beverages and paper products, such as toilet paper and cardboard packaging, via more than 2,250 vehicles daily.

Malta

E-Cabs

E-Cabs, the Maltese taxi firm founded by an entrepreneur group including 3 siblings, have helped to provide mobilisation for citizens during the COVID-19 crisis. The firm have added a new wheelchair accessible van to their fleet, which offers free trips to Mater Dei Hospital appointments.

BRND WGN

The company have come together to help businesses set up E-Commerce in the shortest possible time. The platform has been made affordable for businesses and is scalable so that businesses can continue to trade during these difficult times to ensure their revenue does not completely stop.

Estonia

BOLT

Founded by 2 brothers, Bolt is a driving app providing low fare and traceable taxi journey. During the COVID-19 crisis, they have moved into delivering food and goods to support restaurants so that they can continue to employ a small number of staff to prepare foods and employees to prepare products.

Poland

Raben Group

The logistics group organised the distribution of good for several charitable donations. The Raben Group distributed, free of charge, 6 million face masks, 250,000 gloves, 100,000 protective suits, medical goggles and visors each, as well as 51 ventilators, more than 12,000 ready-to-eat meals transported to hospitals, plus 300 pallets for Food Banks

Romania

FAN Courier Express

The FAN Courier Foundation are actively present in the national effort to fight against the spread of COVID-19 and to protect those who work in the frontline. Along with their partners, NGOs and private companies, they delivered free of charge more than 27 tons of medical equipment to a number of 1.265 hospitals, doctors, police, firefighters and health institutions. They also provided 200 elderly people with food for the Easter, offered laptops to financially challenged students so they could participate in online school. The project to deliver laptops and tablets to more than 3.000 students from poor rural communities is a way of helping them to continue their studies during this period.

Bulgaria

Mandjukov Ltd

Petar Mandzhukov is the Honourable chairperson of the Management Board of FBN Bulgaria. Mandjukov Ltd., operating as a parent company, is active in the field of real estate, media, machine building, trade, production and sale of "green energy".

In May 2020, Mr. Mandjukov and his family made a donation to the Military Medical Academy for the battle of the doctors with COVID-19. He donated 6 new ambulances worth BGN 700,000 to the health institution.

Pharmaceuticals

United Kingdom

HMG

The UK's largest independent coatings manufacturer, HMG Paints Ltd, has utilised its manufacturing knowledge and existing alcohol stocks to produce hand sanitiser for front-line workers, care providers and charities in Manchester and across the UK.

Belgium

ABinBev

The brewery and distiller have shifted production to make hand sanitizer gel with the alcohol from beer.

France

SEPTODONT

The world leader in dental anaesthetic, Septodont have converted their production to alcohol gel, producing more than a tonne distributed to hospitals and old people's homes.

Group Lemoine

After learning of the shortage of nasopharyngeal swabs necessary for the virological tests for COVID-19 screening, its managers organised a line of production dedicated to the swabs, manufacturing the first swabs in just 8 days. The group now produce 1.5 million swabs a week.

Nouvelle Aquitaine

The group have produced 9 tonnes of hydro-alcoholic solutions. The group have also donated 2,000 FFP2 masks to the Nord Deux-Sèvres hospital

Spain

Tous

The jewellery group have made their productive capacity available to the health system to fight the COVID-19 pandemic, adapting its 3D printing machines to produce components for ICU oxygen bypass tubes.

HIPRA

The animal health company have increased the analysis capacity of coronavirus tests and generated 3D parts that have been used to manufacture respirators for hospitals.

Portugal

Casa Ermelinda Freitas

The vineyard have switched their production make alcohol gel and visors in collaboration with IPS to minimise shortages in the health services.

OLI

OLI have produced 20,000 visor support units weekly, for free delivery to hospitals.

Norway

KG Puntervold

The Norwegian distillery and cider producer, with majority ownership from the Holta family investment company, have switched production in their factory from alcohol to hand sanitizers used in the public health battle against COVID-19.

Malta

CassarCamilleri

The Maltese beverage company has started the production of Hand Sanitizer at their PET bottling facility. This hand sanitizer has been donated to Malta's health authorities.

Invent 3D

The DIY company have switched their production to created printable face shields in order to protect healthcare and public workers.

Finland

Kyrö Distillery

The distillery has switched its production to create hand sanitizer to be distributed throughout Finland. The distillery aims to be able to produce 2500 bottles a day.

Poland

LUG S.A

The leading European manufacturer of professional lighting solutions have gone the extra mile to help others. As well as the provision of professional personal protective equipment for their workforce, local healthcare services and others, they have created a new room-sterilisation product line which uses UV-C technology to combat harmful microorganisms, including COVID-19.

Germany

Becks

The Becks brewery has started providing alcohol for the production of disinfectants including hand sanitizers.

Jägermeister

With large quantities of excess alcohol accumulating during production, the brewery is now supplying disinfectant manufacturer KWST GmbH with the alcohol necessary to make disinfectant.

Viessmann

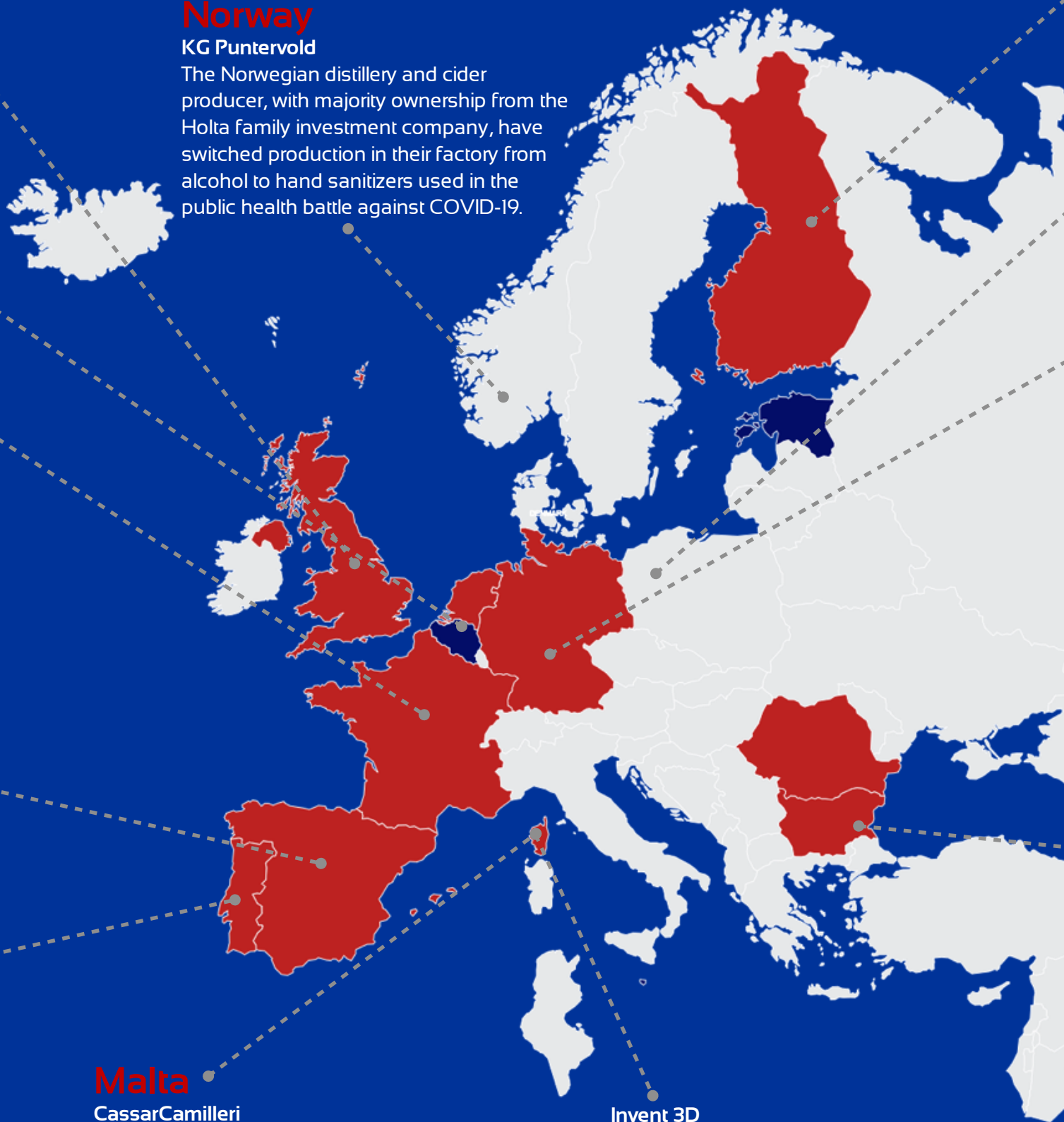
The heating specialist in is expanding its production so that it is able to make ventilators and respirators The family-owned company says that it is working closely with doctors from the Luisen Hospital, the academic teaching hospital of the Medical Faculty of the RWTH Aachen.

Bulgaria

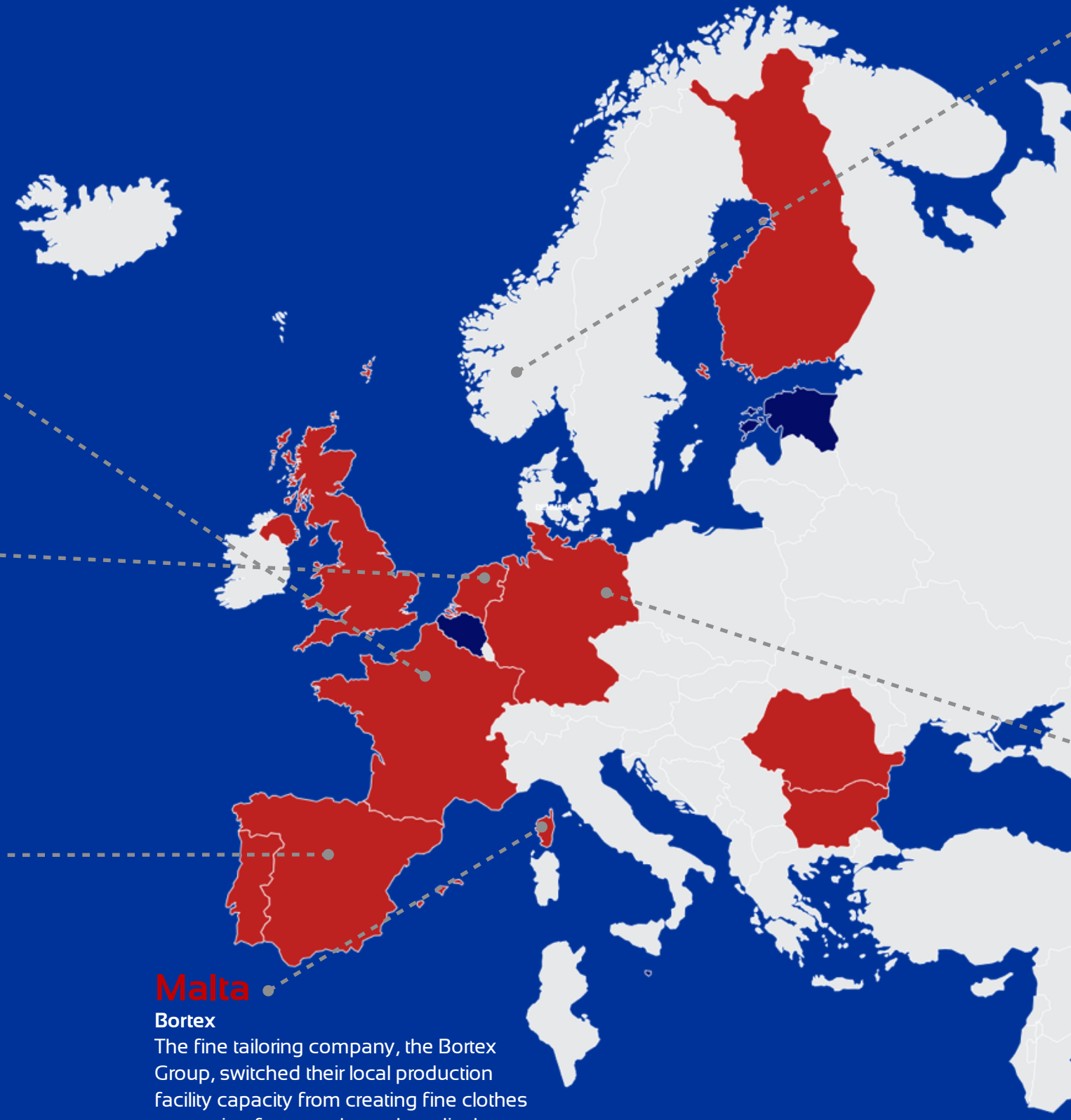
TEDA-MM Ltd

Teda-MM is a leading producer of thermoformed plastic packaging for the food industry in Eastern Europe. Facing the challenges and the customers' demands caused by the spread of COVID-19 the company launched a new product - a safety helmet.

In March 2020, "Teda-MM" made and donated 160 3D printed helmets. The company donated and delivered a huge amount of PET material, from which the protective screens of the helmets were made by the University of Rousse.



Textiles and Production



France

STERIMED

The medium sized business specialising in sterile medical devices, Sterimed has been engaged in the health war by transforming its industrial site in Amélie-les-Bains (Pyrénées-Orientales), into an import centre for surgical masks. In total, more than 15 million masks have been received on site and then shipped to secure employees of strategic companies, hospitals and old people's home.

Thuasne

The European leader in textile medical devices has produced more than 10,000 certified masks daily since April. With its historical know-how and thanks to the mobilisation of its teams and its productive tools, these masks can be reused up to 30 times on the condition that they are machine washed at 60 ° every day and will soon be sold in sets of two in pharmacies or sent to local authorities.

The Netherlands

Auping

Auping produced masks for the Dutch healthcare workers. They purchased a machine that has been placed in a separate room so that production can function properly in addition to other products made. They aim to make 4 million units.

Spain

Casa Tarradellas

Casa Tarradellas have manufactured protective masks using the transparent PET sheets they use to packages their pizzas. According to company sources, the experts have already made two different prototypes.

1,500 units have been delivered to Osona socio-health centres, the Vic Hospital Consortium, the Hospital de la Santa Creu de Vic Foundation and the El Nadal residential centre, the Sant Josep Clinic and the Sant Tomàs Association. Besides from the masks, they have also manufactured single-use protective gowns from plastic sheets and with the support of volunteers.

Malta

Bortex

The fine tailoring company, the Bortex Group, switched their local production facility capacity from creating fine clothes to creating face masks and medical scrubs. This has been done in order to support the Maltese response movement to COVID-19, with the items being given to local hospitals and clinics.

Norway

ASAP Norway

The absorbent disposable sheet manufacturer have made a big impact during the COVID-19 crisis. As well as setting up a new production line to manufacture 400,000 infection coats for hospitals, they have employed 100 new staff on short term contracts to handle the new influx of orders.

Gran Seil

The sail manufacturer have shifted their production line to produce infection coats in order to address the shortage of PPE equipment during the COVID-19 crisis.

Janus Fabrikker

The wool thermal baselayer manufacturer have switched their manufacturing to create facemasks for the public. These facemasks have been made for the general population and act as a cover for the filter masks.

Espe Produkter

Espe Produkter produce eco-friendly disposable bedding, washcloths, towels, various types of barrier sheets and rescue products for health care, nurseries and accommodation. During the COVID-19 crisis, Espe added infection coats and surgical gowns to their production line to address the shortage of PPE.

Germany

Trigema

The Swabian clothing manufacturer Trigema has partially switched its production to mouth and nose protection masks. The company has already received orders from clinics, nursing homes, authorities and others. In order to be able to meet the demand, work is also done on Saturdays.

Maryan Beachwear Group

Instead of bikinis and swimsuits, the Maryan Beachwear Group switched production to make respirators that are certified according to the FFP2 standard.

Food and Donations

United Kingdom

JCB

The machine manufacturer introduced its own 'Food for our own initiatives'. So far 100,000 meals have been made and delivered in India and 10,000 in the UK.

Robinsons

The family brewer assisted licensees with their domestic and business rents, cancelling both until pubs re-open. They also suspended all direct debits and froze repayments of loans and interest charges. In addition, they will replace draught beer and cider which expires during this crisis.

The Netherlands

Faber Halbertsma Group

The group gave 150,000 flowers to nursing homes for elderly citizens. These flowers provided support for society.

Elho

More than 3000 plants in elho pots were given to employees to show appreciation.

France

KS Groupe

KS group made a donation of €100,000 to the University of Strasbourg Foundation for healthcare staff and encouraged employees to participate in this solidarity effort. Each Euro paid by employees is doubled by the management.

Spain

Mercadona

The Valencia founded food giant donated over 30 tonnes of products to the Barcelona Food Bank. This food supported the most vulnerable groups. The company is distributing 30,598 kg of basic products, such as milk, oil, pasta, cans of tuna and vegetables, and prepared dishes to the food bank.

Chocolates Valor

The business donated €300,000 to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 to tackle the disease and help health professionals.

The company explained that a budget of €100,000 has been set aside to finance research strategies to fight SARS-CoV-2.

Portugal

Sonatural Portugal

The Portuguese food service distributor have worked to ensure that their companies are able to continue to produce basic food that can reach all in Portuguese society.

Norway

Ferd

Ferd, the largest family investment company in Norway, donated between Nkr100,000-Nkr250,000 (€9,300 - €23,500) to 50 workers for each of their children or grandchildren to help fund the sports club or group they usually attend.

Simon Møkster Shipping and Equinor

Simon Møkster shipping are a supplier of modern offshore support vessels. Along with their client, Equinor, they donated equipment from their vessels to the local hospital. The donation included infection coats, surgical bandages, latex and nitrile gloves and much more.

Malta

Greens Supermarket

The supermarket has introduced free delivery to encourage people to stay home during the COVID-19 crisis.

Save and Support Trust

The trust have worked to Raising funds to buy 45 oxygen concentrators to support Malta's effort to treat patients suffering from Covid-19.

Victory Kitchen

6 restaurateurs oined together to collectively produce between 600 and 700 meals for people in need every day.

Tessera Co Ltd & Fisher

The importers of building material and tools have donated personal protective equipment to Malta's Health Authorities and Civil Protection Department.

Finland

Tiina and Antti Herlin Foundation

The organisation has started a lunch for every child campaign, delivering one week's worth of food bags families where children rely on free lunches at school.

Belgium

Solvay

Solvay launched a solidarity fund supporting any employee experiencing hardship due to COVID-19. The fund was financed by voluntary contributions from senior executives, matched by Solvay and topped up by contributions from shareholders.

Poland

Drutex

Drutex, the leading window producer in Europe, started the 'Helping Together' campaign, bringing together companies under a single umbrella to donate to the healthcare sector and patients. The action was supported by media, sport, and business celebrities. So far, the campaign has raised 23 million zloty.

Germany

Glycklich

The ice cream manufacturer has produced pasta for the local supermarket. Otherwise I would have had to send my employees on short-time work," stated managing director Ralph Höfges.

Romania

Fildas-Catena Group

The leader of the Romanian retail and wholesale pharmaceutical market committed over €2.2 million to support the Romanian medical system for COVID-19. Over €2 million are committed to the Romanian hospitals fighting COVID-19. Fildas-Catena also joined an initiative of the Save the Children Organization, donating €100,000 in an emergency fund set up to buy equipment and medical protection kits. Fildas-Catena Group also donated 100,000 euros in a charity organised by several TV channels jointly.

Bulgaria

Ficosata Holding

The first donation initiative against COVID-19 "Help Now" has grown fast from a regional initiative into a national one. They donated the first BGN 100,000 of the campaign, and 9 local companies and dozens of residents have joined.

