

[CE visits CuMask+\[TM\] production workshop \(with photos / video\)](#)

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, this morning (May 6) inspected one of the production sites of CuMask+™ in Tsuen Wan and expressed her gratitude to the staff and workers for their dedication in producing the high-quality reusable masks in the past months for all Hong Kong citizens to fight against the epidemic.

Accompanied by the Secretary for Innovation and Technology, Mr Alfred Sit, Mrs Lam visited one of the production sites of CuMask+™ in Hong Kong where she was briefed on the production process and related facilities by the Chief Executive Officer of the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA), Mr Edwin Keh. Mrs Lam also chatted with the workers, noting that many of them are retired workers of the textile industry who have re-joined the production workforce to fight against the epidemic. Mrs Lam praised them for their commitment to serve and expressed her heartfelt thanks for their hard work.

Since the masks produced in the workshop will be delivered to a clean workspace for sterilising with ozone and packing before distribution, there is no need for members of the public to wash the mask before it is used for the first time.

In the face of the tight supply of masks amid the epidemic, the Government set aside funds to subsidise projects on technology applications of reusable masks under the first round of the Anti-epidemic Fund approved by the Legislative Council, enabling the birth of CuMask+™ announced yesterday (May 5). The patented design adopted by CuMask+™ was developed by HKRITA with the support of the Innovation and Technology Fund, and was awarded a Gold Medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions of Geneva 2018. The mask reaches the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F2100 Level 1 standard and can be washed 60 times. It can even be used for a long period after replacing the filter.

"I am pleased to note that CuMask+™ is well received by the public and the registration process has been very smooth. As of 6pm today, over 1.57 million people had registered on the website. Relevant departments will arrange delivery of the masks to the public as soon as possible. I also appeal to members of the public to make use of the registration quota of up to six persons as much as possible to minimise delivery resources and enhance efficiency," Mrs Lam said.

"CuMask+™ is a home-grown scientific research achievement with local application. The whole process has involved co-operation between the Government, industry, academia and the research sector and is an outstanding example of the use technology to improve people's lives. It will also help solve the problem of the supply of face masks during an epidemic in the long

run. I highly commend all the people who have participated in the relevant work and I am fully confident in the development of innovation and technology in Hong Kong," Mrs Lam said.

