



Prototype Designer Launches First Product of its Own

3D Printed, silicone masks could replace uncomfortable, ineffective fabric masks

INDIANAPOLIS — July 23, 2020 — Avance Design, an Indianapolis company known for helping other inventors, entrepreneurs and businesses bring their product ideas to life, has just released its very first product of its own.

“With the pandemic, we’ve been seeing all kinds of fabric masks, some homemade, some designer-branded, hit the market, but we also heard lots of complaints about how uncomfortable they are for long-term use, and they also require constant washing to be effective,” said Avance Business Development Manager Bill Fletcher. “Our silicone mask is softer, more durable, easier to clean and able to wear eight-hours a day.”

The molds for the silicone masks are 3D printed to keep costs down, speed production and enable the company to scale quickly should demand spike. The rigid parts of the mask were also initially 3D printed to enable designers to experiment with fit and function before designing a mold to make more.

The [Avance Silicone Face Mask](#) is manufactured in Indiana, and several companies are currently testing the mask to determine if it's right for their workforces. Fletcher said the masks, which appear bulkier than the more common fabric or disposable masks, are designed for long-term wear rather than short shopping or social events. “The mask was designed to fill the need for industrial/manufacturing applications.”

“These masks have two straps, so there’s less stress around the ears, and it’s designed to stay off your mouth and nose, so that also helps,” Fletcher said.

Avance has already sold some of the masks as people have learned of them, Fletcher said. Currently, they have the capability to produce 100 masks a week.

Avance Design is excited to announce its first product launch! We saw a need for a PPE face mask that was comfortable, reusable and non-fabric. We used our years of experience in product design, silicone molding and 3D printing background to create the Avance Silicone Face Mask. It is proudly manufactured in Indiana. Click on the link to learn more about this cool new product <https://www.avancedesign.com/shop/>

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About [Avance Design](#)

Founded in 2002, Avance Design is a product development & engineering design group focused on offering unique solutions for consumer products such as medical devices and specialty tools/hardware. Based in Indianapolis, it was a finalist for the 2020 Mira Service Partner of the Year award.