**Open Source Information**

**on Coronavirus**

**of interest for customs**

[General information](#info)

[Press articles](#press) (most recent first)

**General information**

**CDC**

* **List of masks not approved by NIOSH** (US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)  
  <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html>
* **SEARCH ENGINE[[1]](#footnote-1) – NPPTL (**National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory**)**<https://wwwn.cdc.gov/niosh-cel/>

**COVID-19 – Fighting the fakes**

<https://efpia.eu/news-events/the-efpia-view/blog-articles/covid-19-fighting-the-fakes/>

**Counterfeit & Altered Respirators: The Importance of Checking for NIOSH Certification**

<https://www.osha.gov/video/respiratory_protection/niosh_transcript.html>

**The Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products (RAPEX): Particulate respirator AURA - Counterfeit**

<https://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumers_safety/safety_products/rapex/alerts/?event=viewProduct&reference=A12/1117/15&lng=en>

**How to identify counterfeit 3M 8210 Particulate Respirators**

<https://www.thecounterfeitreport.com/product/446/3M-8210-Particulate-Respirators.html>

**WCO**

* **List of national legislation\* of countries that adopted temporary EXPORT restrictions on certain categories of critical medical supplies in response to COVID-19** [ENGLISH](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/facilitation/activities-and-programmes/natural-disaster/list-of-countries-coronavirus.aspx) / [FRANCAIS](http://www.wcoomd.org/fr/topics/facilitation/activities-and-programmes/natural-disaster/list-of-countries-coronavirus.aspx)
* **List of national legislation\* of countries that adopted temporary IMPORT support (lowering or waiving of direct and indirect duties and taxes) on certain categories of critical medical supplies in response to COVID-19** [ENGLISH](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/facilitation/activities-and-programmes/natural-disaster/temporary-import-support-measures-adopted-by-members.aspx) / [FRANCAIS](http://www.wcoomd.org/fr/topics/facilitation/activities-and-programmes/natural-disaster/temporary-import-support-measures-adopted-by-members.aspx)
* **WCO COVID-19 Checklist for Customs Enforcement (1st April 2019)** (Law enforcement sensitive)

**Avoid #covidscams - A Partnership for Safe Medicines Public Education Campaign**

<https://www.safemedicines.org/>

**Ente Certificazione Macchine – Certificate of compliance with European standards**

**Authenticity check**

<http://entecerma.it/certificate.php>

**WHO**

* **WHO Global Surveillance and Monitoring System for Substandard and Falsified Medical Products**<https://www.who.int/medicines/regulation/ssffc/en/>
* WHO Medical Product Alert N° 3/2020:  
  *Falsified medical products, including in vitro diagnostics, that claim to prevent, detect, treat or cure COVID-19* [ENGLISH](https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/31-03-2020-medical-product-alert-n-3-2020) /[FRANCAIS](https://www.who.int/fr/news-room/detail/31-03-2020-medical-product-alert-n-3-2020) / [ESPANOL](https://www.who.int/es/news-room/detail/31-03-2020-medical-product-alert-n-3-2020)

**Guidance note on the Importation and Customs clearance of Medicines and Medical Equipment in response to the novel coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) “Survive together or sink together”**

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/guidance-note-importation-and-customs-clearance-medicines-and-medical-equipment>

**LIVE UPDATES: IP offices implement measures in wake of coronavirus crisis**

**>>> REGULARLY UPDATED** <https://www.worldtrademarkreview.com/brand-management/ip-offices-implement-measures-in-wake-of-coronavirus-crisis> **REGULARLY UPDATED <<<**

**CITES: Secretariat’s statement in relation to COVID-19**

<https://www.cites.org/eng/CITES_Secretariat_statement_in_relation_to_COVID19>

**Europe’s coronavirus lockdown measures compared**

<https://www.politico.eu/article/europes-coronavirus-lockdown-measures-compared/>

**TRACIT (Transitional Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade): COVID-19 Product fraud alert**

<https://www.tracit.org/covid-19.html>

**FDA: Fraudulent Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Products**

<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/health-fraud-scams/fraudulent-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-products>

**ISO: COVID-19 response - freely available ISO standards**

<https://www.iso.org/covid19>

**ESC (European Shippers’ Council): COVID-19 Measures** (updated information on the situation in the transport sector in Europe (restrictions of movements, closed terminals etc.)

<https://europeanshippers.eu/news/esc-covid-19-map/>

**EUROPOL: Viral marketing - Counterfeits, substandard goods and intellectual property crime in the COVID-19 pandemic**

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/viral-marketing-counterfeits-substandard-goods-and-intellectual-property-crime-in-covid-19-pandemic>

**Operational results Centro Integrado Policial Permanente Anticontrabando (CIPPA) (ES)**

**Colombian Police**

<https://www.policia.gov.co/contenido/resultados-operacionales-cippa>

**OECD - The Face Mask Global Value Chain in the COVID-19 Outbreak: Evidence and Policy Lessons**

<https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/view/?ref=132_132616-l4i0j8ci1q&title=The-Face-Mask-Global-Value-Chain-in-the-COVID-19-Outbreak-Evidence-and-Policy-Lessons>

**UN (United Nations): Laboratory and forensic science services**

* use and removal of an N95 or P2 particulate respirator mask.
* use and removal of nitrile gloves
* use and removal of double nitrile gloves
* use of eye protection with an N95 or P2 respirator mask.
* use of an air purifying respirator, a full particulate PPE ensemble and a full chemical resistant PPE ensemble

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/scientists/index.html>

**IACP (International Association of Chiefs of Police) – 19 Law enforcement information on COVID-19**

<https://www.theiacp.org/resources/document/law-enforcement-information-on-covid-19>

**Press articles**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 18 November 2021 | CNN Investigation: Tens of millions of filthy, used medical gloves imported into the US <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/10/24/health/medical-gloves-us-thailand-investigation-cmd-intl/index.html> |
| 09 March 2021 | Fake vaccines could be infiltrating Europe’s supply chain <https://www.vice.com/en/article/v7maxm/fake-vaccines-could-be-infiltrating-europes-supply-chain> |
| 05 March 2021 | Over 65.000 counterfeit 3M masks seized in Chicago<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/over-65k-counterfeit-3m-masks-seized-chicago> |
| 03 March 2021 | Fake COVID vaccine distribution dismantled after INTERPOL alert <https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2021/Fake-COVID-vaccine-distribution-network-dismantled-after-INTERPOL-alert> |
| 19 January 2021 | Hong Kong customs seizes 333’000 fake N95 respirators in city’s largest confiscation of counterfeit masks <https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3118306/hong-kong-customs-seizes-333000-fake-n95-respirators> |
| 15 January 2021 | U.S. Customs and Border Protection at JFK seizes counterfeit 3M N95 masks <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/cbp-jfk-seizes-counterfeit-3m-n95-masks> |
| 10 December 2020 | Medicines and doping substances worth €73 million seized in Europe-wide operation<https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/medicines-and-doping-substances-worth-%E2%82%AC73-million-seized-in-europe-wide-operation> |
| 02 December 2020 | Vaccin contre le covid-19: Interpol craint des contrefaçons par le crime organisé<https://www.huffingtonpost.fr/entry/vaccin-covid-19-interpol-contrefacon-crime-organise_fr_5fc77700c5b641aae1211778> |
| 23 November 2020 | Criminal gangs are making billions from fake medical supplies during COVID<https://spectator.us/gangs-billions-fake-medical-supplies-covid/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=counterfeit_news_alert_november_25_2020&utm_term=2020-11-25> |
| 11 November 2020 | Mascherine con falso marchio CE, sequestrati a Treviso 374’000 pezzi <https://corrieredelveneto.corriere.it/treviso/cronaca/20_novembre_11/mascherine-ffp2-falso-marchio-ce-sequestrati-treviso-374-mila-pezzi-e058c606-2425-11eb-95be-90959b44289b.shtml>  **FFP2 masks with fake CE mark, 374’000 pieces seized in Treviso**  The goods were found in a warehouse in Villorba, they were manufactured in China and then sold to a Swiss company.  The Guardia di Finanza in Treviso seized 374’000 pieces of Ffp2/Kn95 and surgical face masks, with a fake CE mark, manufactured in China and failing to comply with security legislation.  The goods were found in a warehouse in Villorba. The masks were made in China and imported into the Netherlands and then sold to a Swiss company.  The Swiss company transferred the goods to the company of Treviso, which in May, as a result of the COVID 19 emergency, had converted its business to trade in medical goods and personal protective equipment.  The two directors of the companies, Swiss and Italian, were reported to the Public Prosecutor’s Office of Treviso for fraud in trade and sale of dangerous products.  With the latter intervention, Treviso’s Guardia di Finanza seized more than 500’000 personal protective equipment and almost 4.000 liters of sanitizing gel in 2020.  (non official translation) |
| 6 November 2020 | Mexican Cartels Are Using More U.S. Citizens to Smuggle Drugs Because of COVID <https://www.vice.com/en/article/88aazb/mexican-cartels-are-using-more-us-citizens-to-smuggle-drugs-because-of-covid> |
| 5 November 2020 | **Combating unauthorized and counterfeit goods during the COVID-19 pandemic: the CBSA, Health Canada and RCMP announce the results of Project Purify**  <https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/11/combating-unauthorized-and-counterfeit-goods-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-the-cbsa-health-canada-and-rcmp-announce-the-results-of-project-purify.html> |
| 3 November 2020 | **Food Packages in China Keep Testing Positive For Coronavirus**  <https://time.com/5899803/coronavirus-frozen-food-china/>  **Lucrative Fake Medicine Trade In ASEAN**  <https://theaseanpost.com/article/lucrative-fake-medicine-trade-asean> |
| 30 October 2020 | **Hong Kong raid leads to 100,000 counterfeit masks**  <https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/hong-kong-raid-leads-to-100000-counterfeit-masks-1.1604055055180> |
| 2 August 2020 | **Smuggling and Counterfeiting Has Increased in the Country by 42% during the COVID-19 Crisis**  <https://thecostaricanews.com/smuggling-and-counterfeiting-has-increased-in-the-country-by-42-during-the-covid-19-crisis/> |
| 31 July 2020 | **North Korea LOCKDOWN: Kim Jong-un on alert as coronavirus-infected goods enter port**  <https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1316754/North-Korea-coronavirus-Nampo-port-lockdown-cases-Kim-Jong-un-news-latest> |
| 30 July 2020 | **Korea’s healthcare exports surge in H1 on Covid-19**  <http://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=8867>  **Duplicate N-95 masks worth Rs 21.39 lakh seized in Mumbai; o**  <https://mumbaimirror.indiatimes.com/coronavirus/news/duplicate-n-95-masks-worth-rs-21-39-lakh-seized-in-mumbai-one-arrested/articleshow/77259931.cms>  **1400 litres of spurious sanitizer seized in Kolkata**  <https://www.hindustantimes.com/kolkata/1400-litres-of-spurious-sanitizer-seized-in-kolkata/story-Bxx9Fwpror3UjoFMN844zH.html> |
| 29 July 2020 | **10 million counterfeit face masks have been prevented from entering the United States**  <https://www.fastcompany.com/90533947/10-million-counterfeit-face-masks-have-been-prevented-from-entering-the-united-states> |
| 31 July 2020 | **COVID 19 - Polfa,Colombia intercepts 3850 doses illegal ivermectin**  <https://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/servicios/polfa-incauta-3-850-unidades-de-ivermectina-para-coronavirus-522450> |
| 26 July 2020 | **Police seize fake Covid kits in international trafficking crackdown**  <https://www.talkofthetown.co.za/2020/07/26/police-seize-fake-covid-kits-in-international-trafficking-crackdown/> |
| 16 July 2020 | **U.S. Customs at Port of Mobile intercepts $120K in unapproved sanitary wipes**  <https://mynbc15.com/news/local/us-customs-at-port-of-mobile-intercepts-120k-in-unapproved-sanitary-wipes> |
| 15 July 2020 | **Dubai Customs discusses better cooperation with global partner in COVID fight**  <https://www.logisticsmiddleeast.com/supply-chain/35767-dubai-customs-discusses-better-cooperation-with-global-partners-in-covid-fight>  **Così i cartelli della droga aggirano il lockdown**  <https://www.internazionale.it/notizie/luke-taylor/2020/07/15/narcotraffico-lockdown-coronavirus> |
| 14 July 2020 | **COVID-19 scam seizures top 840, says ICE**  <https://www.securingindustry.com/pharmaceuticals/covid-19-scam-seizures-top-840-says-ice/s40/a11975/#.XyEnKntS-Uk> |
| 13 July 2020 | **US Secret Service launches cyber fraud task force**  <https://menafn.com/1100473136/US-Secret-Service-launches-cyber-fraud-task-force>  **Pangolin scale seizures jumped 10 times between 2014 and 2018: UN report**  <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/pangolin-scale-seizures-jumped-10-times-between-2014-and-2018-un-report-72263>  **World risks another virus like COVID-19 if wildlife crimes not stopped – UNODC**  <https://guardian.ng/news/world-risks-another-virus-like-covid-19-if-wildlife-crimes-not-stopped-unodc/> |
| 12 July 2020 | **Layered pandemics: Transnational organized crime rages in the time of COVID**  <https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/506691-layered-pandemics-transnational-organized-crime-rages-in-the-time>  **UN report: Wildlife trafficking increases risk of pandemics like Covid-19**  <https://www.dhakatribune.com/world/2020/07/12/un-report-wildlife-trafficking-increases-risk-of-pandemics-like-covid-19> |
| 11 July 2020 | **China detects shrimp with Covid-19; and suspends imports.**  <https://www.theyucatantimes.com/2020/07/china-detects-shrimp-with-covid-19-and-suspends-imports/> |

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| 7 July 2020 | **Health Canada issues advisory over counterfeit N95 respirators**  <https://dailyhive.com/vancouver/counterfeit-respirators-health-canada>  **CBP seizes largest synthetic drug shipment in Port of Cincinnati history**  <https://highlandcountypress.com/Content/In-The-News/Headlines/Article/CBP-seizes-largest-synthetic-drug-shipment-in-Port-of-Cincinnati-history/2/73/58439> |
| 3 July 2020 | **China suspends meat imports from various origins amid COVID-19 pandemic**  <https://www.agriculture.com/markets/newswire/factbox-china-suspends-meat-imports-from-various-origins-amid-covid-19-pandemic>  **Indian Customs clears Chinese shipments stuck at ports**  <https://www.ship-technology.com/news/indian-customs-clears-chinese-shipment/>  **Mostly from China: P244-M worth of smuggled PPEs, fake medicines seized during height of COVID-19 lockdown**  <https://business.inquirer.net/301618/mostly-from-china-p244-m-worth-of-smuggled-ppes-fake-medicines-seized-during-height-of-covid-19-lockdown>  **Ban on Export of Four Covid-19-Related Medical Products Lifted**  <https://financialtribune.com/articles/domestic-economy/104135/ban-on-export-of-four-covid-19-related-medical-products-lifted> |
| 2 July 2020 | **CBP Warns: Don't Get Duped By Fake COVID-19 Products**  <https://www.wvxu.org/post/cbp-warns-dont-get-duped-fake-covid-19-products#stream/0>  **China Imposes Coronavirus Restrictions on Food Products**  <http://agnetwest.com/china-imposes-coronavirus-restrictions-on-food-products/>  **Counterfeit products and websites on the rise amid COVID-19**  <https://www.canadianlawyermag.com/practice-areas/intellectual-property/counterfeit-products-and-websites-on-the-rise-amid-covid-19/331132> |
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| 29 June 2020 | **WGA, USDA, FDA push back against Chinese Customs COVID rule**  <https://www.producebluebook.com/2020/06/29/wga-usda-fda-push-back-against-chinese-customs-covid-rule/#modal> |
| 26 June 2020 | **Chinese importers want signed guarantees that Norwegian farmed salmon is COVID-free, but some exporters balk**  <https://www.intrafish.com/trade/chinese-importers-want-signed-guarantees-that-norwegian-farmed-salmon-is-covid-free-but-some-exporters-balk/2-1-830941>  **COVID-19 accelerates greater trade coordination in East Africa**  <https://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=2411>  **Fake hand sanitizer factory busted, 3 jailed**  <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/court/2020/06/26/fake-hand-sanitizer-factory-busted-3-jailed>  **Large Customs bust in Cincinnati include fake COVID-19 tests, counterfeit consumer goods, synthetic drugs**  <https://www.whio.com/news/photos-large-customs/ON3KK7GRGJF3BMDWBRGRRNTJUI/> (PHOTOS)  <https://www.whio.com/news/crime-and-law/fake-covid-19-tests-counterfeit-consumer-goods-synthetic-drugs-part-large-customs-bust-cincinnati/IHYZW6QQV5G6DOJISKKT5CICPQ/> (ARTICLE)  **China demands COVID-19 declaration on U.S. exports**  <https://www.agweb.com/article/china-demands-covid-19-declaration-us-exports> |
| 25 June 2020 | **Counterfeit COVID-19 Masks Destined For Buffalo Grove Seized**  <https://patch.com/illinois/buffalogrove/counterfeit-covid-19-masks-destined-buffalo-grove-seized>  **Food Exporters Resist China’s New Coronavirus Restrictions**  <https://www.wsj.com/articles/food-exporters-resist-chinas-new-coronavirus-restrictions-11593094481>  **Federal agents seize 10 tons of illegal meat from China at port**  <https://www.agdaily.com/news/agents-seize-10-tons-illegal-meat/> |
| 24 June 2020 | **Akin Gump Sues Sellers of Allegedly Counterfeit Respiratory Mask on Behalf of Chinese Company BYD**  <https://www.law.com/therecorder/2020/06/23/akin-gump-sues-sellers-of-allegedly-counterfeit-respiratory-mask-on-behalf-of-chinese-company-byd/?slreturn=20200524031250>  **Counterfeit coronavirus equipment seized at the Port of New Orleans**  <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/counterfeit-coronavirus-equipment-siezed-at-the-port-of-new-orleans/ar-BB15T3iQ>  **Indian customs may start inspection of all imports from China at ports and airports**  <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-halts-customs-clearance-for-chinese-goods-in-chennai/articleshow/76530095.cms>  **Meat Plants Become Hotspots for Covid-19 Across the World**  <https://www.grainmart.in/news/meat-plants-become-hotspots-for-covid-19-across-the-world/>  **Hackers are still running coronavirus-related campaigns, CrowdStrike warns**  <https://www.cyberscoop.com/coronavirus-hacking-disinformation-ransomware-spearphishing/>  **PR: Surge in counterfeit goods during coronavirus outbreak sparks hike in demand for authentication protection**  <https://www.securingindustry.com/press-releases/surge-in-counterfeit-goods-during-coronavirus-outbreak-sparks-hike-in-demand-for-authentication-protection/s135/a11876/#.XvXB4ntS-Uk>  **Authorities Intercept Alleged Counterfeit Masks Intended For Buffalo Grove Home**  <https://www.journal-topics.com/articles/authorities-intercept-alleged-counterfeit-masks-intended-for-buffalo-grove-home/>  **Amazon's new anti-counterfeit unit aims to keep fake goods off the site and bring criminals to justice**  <https://www.marketwatch.com/amp/story/amazons-new-anti-counterfeit-unit-aims-to-keep-fake-goods-off-the-site-and-bring-criminals-to-justice-2020-06-24>  **Niagara police seize $767,000 worth of stolen N95 masks and hand sanitizer**  <https://www.cp24.com/news/niagara-police-seize-767-000-worth-of-stolen-n95-masks-and-hand-sanitizer-1.4998091> |
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1. Possible options are “NIOSH TC approval number”, “Quick Searches”, “Advanced Searches”. An “Instructions and Tips” slide is available in case of necessity. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)