AUTOMOTIVE

British sports carmaker McLaren joins VentilatorChallengeUK Consortium

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Select British manufacturers have come together to supply more than 10,000 ventilators to the U.K. government as it battles the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. Image credit: VentilatorChallengeUK Consortium

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

British sports carmaker McLaren Group is joining the VentilatorChallengeUK Consortium to help make medical ventilators for the United Kingdom.

The consortium comprises major U.K. industrial, technology and engineering companies across sectors such as automotive, aerospace and healthcare.

Race is on
Each division within McLaren will contribute differently toward the consortium's goal of producing more than 10,000 ventilator orders received from the British government. The ventilators are designed to help COVID-19 coronavirus patients breathe.

For example, McLaren Automotive is designing bespoke trolleys on which the ventilators are fixed for use in clinical settings. It is also helping to duplicate and expand the production of existing devices to meet demand.

McLaren Racing converted its machine shop to manufacture ventilator components, while also working with 100 of iys suppliers and other U.K.-based Formula 1 teams.

McLaren Applied is supporting the ventilator device build assessments, particularly around electronics. It is working with McLaren Automotive to extend its engineering expertise to design and build end-of-line test equipment, ensuring that the ventilator units meet all of the functional and safety requirements.

Dick Elsy, CEO of High Value Manufacturing Catapult, chairs the VentilatorChallengeUK.

Other members of the consortium include Airbus, Ford Motor Co., BAE Systems, aircraft engine maker Rolls-Royce, enablers such as Accenture and Microsoft and F1 teams including Mercedes.

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