

## PRESS RELEASE

Lambrecht, 24 February 2021

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# Working Safely in Times of Corona – New "Corona Occupational Safety Regulation" Implemented Before Coming into Effect

The new "SARS-CoV-2 Occupational Safety and Health Regulation", published on 22 January 2021, came into effect five days later. At that time, Jola had already implemented relevant amendments.

The rise in infections of the Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 leads to an increased number of sick people and deaths and puts the German health care system under stress. The recent mutations of the virus only allow anticipating a further acceleration of the rise in infections. Yet, in many areas of life, to introduce new measures of social distance seems impossible. That is why in a press conference on 20 January 2021 the German minister for labour and social affairs Hubertus Heil presented a temporary "SARS-CoV-2 Occupational Safety and Health Regulation" which took almost immediate effect until March. The regulation defines new measures for work safety to protect the health of employees and the general population to maintain economic activity for as long as viable.

Jola has re-evaluated, updated and adapted its infection protection measures with regard to additional necessary measures. In particular, the new regulation relates to a reduction of social contacts and the wearing of face masks. Fabric masks are no longer allowed. Medical masks must be worn and made available. Even before the new regulation took effect, Jola had followed the recommendation of company doctor Dr. Gabriele Magerl (Koamed | Competence Centre for Occupational Medicine and Work Safety) to solely use medical masks. At short-notice, Jola's safety officer Martin Anton had procured a sufficient quantity of medical masks which then were examined and approved by the external occupational safety specialist Michael Rink (Technische Überwachung Rink GmbH).



Furthermore, safety and health instructions concerning the Coronavirus, protocol on how to enter the Jola premises, guidance on how to wear face masks and other documents have been updated and the employees have been instructed.

Additionally, Jola seized the moment to examine the anticipated changes of the "SARS-CoV-2 Occupational Safety and Health Rule" from August 2020 in the draft version from 18 December 2020. Although no further adaptations for Jola resulted from the analysis.

Managing Director Lars Mattil, working from home himself, is proud of his employees: "This time around, I needed not to take care of anything. I was called, informed of the new regulation and received a summary of all the relevant requirements and solutions, as if handed to me on a silver platter. Everything necessary had been done. The only thing left was to update any documentation. Slowly but surely, we have gotten used to dealing with Coronavirus measures..."

### For more information:

- Jola Spezialschalter GmbH & Co. KG https://www.jola-info.de/en/news/
- Koamed | Kompetenzzentrum für Arbeitsmedizin und Arbeitssicherheit https://www.koamed.de
- Technische Überwachung Rink GmbH https://www.tue-rink.de

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