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## EVAL™ EVOH Versus COVID-19

[Pablo Garcia](#)

The unprecedented disruption from the COVID-19 pandemic presents threats and opportunities to all businesses, including ours. In our EVAL Technical Service and Development (TS&D) team we have noted continued strength in barrier food packaging, interest in EVAL™ applications toward the COVID-19 vaccination program, and evolution of virtual meetings both internally and with our customers.

EVAL™ high-barrier food packaging is a resilient industry that has been robust despite the COVID-19 economic downturn. Additionally, we observe a sustained EVAL™ demand from our agriculture and food-growing related applications. Consumers need to eat and increasingly seek sanitary food packaging and delivery formats. E-commerce is an interesting novel solution.

EVAL™ facilitates durable and low-weight barrier packaging for e-commerce to maintain food quality, reduce shipping weight and minimize breakage and loss. From our EVAL TS&D team's perspective, we note increasing technical support toward new and existing activities in optimizing barrier structures and improving mechanical properties for such applications.

Vacuum Insulation Panels (VIP) are another interesting, often overlooked application in our global COVID-19 battle. These vacuum sealed foam panels are the thermal insulation for many refrigeration units and shipping containers of COVID-19 vaccines. EVAL™ is increasingly popular for providing the gas impermeable membrane that ensures a durable vacuum in these panels, greatly reducing thermal convection.

Finally, the EVAL TS&D team evolved to be virtually present and active with our customers. Virtual meetings allow us to interact online to troubleshoot issues and discuss new projects. We also ran a successful webinar series highlighting

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the challenges and opportunities of sustainable barrier packaging in the Americas. Additionally, our team adapted an alternating schedule of remote and office working to minimize our interpersonal contact while completing our laboratory tasks.

We look forward to helping build your barrier projects and grow your business with our EVAL™ resin. Please connect with us to capture the disruptive opportunities posed by COVID-19.

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