
CDS create innovative product to stop the spread of Covid-19

CDS specialises in the design, manufacture, and installation of metalwork features such as staircases, balustrades, handrails, furniture, canopies and even shipping containers using a range of different metals.

Like most businesses over the last few months, Kilkenny-based CDS Architectural Metalwork Ltd. was heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, but with support from its Local Enterprise Office, the company quickly pivoted to provide innovative and essential new products to help prevent the spread of the virus.

One of these products include a foot-grip door handle which can be installed at the base of any door frame to enable it to be opened by foot, instead of by hand.

CDS Architectural Metalwork's product has helped limit the spread of Covid-19 and the company, which previously took part in the LEAN for Micro programme, has been working with organisations across a number of business sectors to install their product.

CDS director, Martin Stapleton, says the new foot-grip handle came about when the company made moves to protect staff from the possibility of catching coronavirus, before adding that he would advise others to try and find opportunities and alternative ways of doing business during the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We had put a Covid-plan in place from early on by changing work practices, using PPE and having Zoom meetings between teams," he said.

“We also began using dividers, sanitisers and then removed door handles and fitted the foot handles instead which were really successful both for our team here and beyond.

“Once we have our health, we can cope with almost anything and I really believe that there are massive opportunities to be grasped from this.

“Work practices will improve and production, once stabilised, will eventually improve.

“The main thing is to realise and identify the vulnerable aspects of our client base and production capabilities and be open to the changes that are being forced on us all and investigate any opportunities that arise,” he concluded.

To find out more about CDS Architectural Metalwork LTD, visit <http://cdsmetalwork.ie/>.

By Stephen Larkin

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