

Mike Petters Vaccine Video

Phoebe Richards: With the COVID-19 vaccine soon becoming available to the greater population, I'm here today with HII President and CEO, Mike Petters to talk about the importance of the vaccine. Mr. Petters, thanks for joining me today.

Mike Petters: Good to see you again.

Phoebe Richards: So, first off is the distribution of the vaccine a turning point in the pandemic?

Mike Petters: I think it's the next step. It's a big step. There's no doubt about that. I think the big press now is going to be for everybody to get shots. And as a nation, we've got to find ways to make them widely available and have a chance to get people to go and get their shots. That's the next big thing. So I think that'll be the real turning point in this is when you start seeing folks getting shots.

Phoebe Richards: Now, there has been positive and some negative information regarding the vaccines. What are your thoughts on the vaccines?

Mike Petters: I have a lot of confidence in our health system and in the scientists that have been putting this together. I've met several of the CEOs that have been involved in this, and I believe in the integrity of their business, what they do and how they went about this. If you believe in the integrity of the country and the integrity of our institutions, then it's easy to believe in the vaccinations. And I just think it's a straightforward thing. It's a remarkable what they've done, but they've done it with lessons learned from years and years of practice.

Phoebe Richards: What is your concern if employees and their families don't get the vaccine?

Mike Petters: Phoebe, we have two large manufacturing sites in our business that the majority of our employees work there and they have to come to work and they have to be working with their teammates side by side in close proximity. It's one thing to think about the vaccine as something whether I want to do it for myself or not, but here's an opportunity for us to actually do something for someone else. Let's get the vaccine, not just for yourself and for your family and for your friends, but also get it for your team. Since March of last year, every time that we think we do something, something else happens.

We've had to react and put in a new protocol or put in a new defense mechanism -- masks and plexiglass -- and all of that testing and cleaning and all that sort of stuff. The vaccine gives us a chance to go on the offensive against the virus for the first time. And I really think that... I mean, I know our employees, I know they've been waiting for the chance to punch this virus back. So here's your chance. You want to punch the virus back, get the vaccine. Do it for yourself, do it for your family, but also do it for your teammates and the folks that you're working side-by-side with. If we're able to do that, then

that'll help us get to whatever the other side of this thing looks like. It'll help us get there faster. And to me, that's when the turning point is going to happen for us is going to be when our employees have that access and have the opportunity to fight back.

Phoebe Richards: To that point, Mr. Petters, do you plan on receiving the vaccine when it's available?

Mike Petters: Oh, I do. Yeah, absolutely. I personally want to make sure that our employees have access to the vaccine. I'm not terribly interested in getting it at the front of the line to show everybody that I can get it. I can manage my risk profile. Actually, it's probably easier for me to do that than most of our employees. And so my intention is to, as the vaccine becomes available to all of our employees, and I have confidence that they can get the vaccine, at that point, then I'll take my turn.

Phoebe Richards: Excellent. Thank you, Mr. Petters.

Mike Petters: You bet.