

renegade.bio responds to New York City call for accelerated COVID-19 testing

Startup aims to vastly increase testing capacity and throughput – starting with front-line workers



San Francisco, May 5, 2020 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - renegade.bio, an emerging diagnostic startup based in San Francisco, has deployed a team to New York City to provide additional critical COVID-19 testing. The move is the first in a multi-staged strategy to make fast, safe, and routine COVID-19 available first to frontline workers, and then the broader community.

The venture-backed company was founded in early March by an agile team of science, technology, and logistics experts, mobilizing in the public interest to make COVID-19 tests more widely available. Initial investors include SOSV who opened a specialized accelerator fund in response to the Global COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020.

CEO and co-founder Craig Rouskey said: “Our testing methodology gives organizations responsible for public health and safety the ability to rapidly scale. This kind of distributed testing capacity is urgently needed to support rapid, secure, regular testing for health and safety workers and others.”

renegade.bio’s breakthrough proprietary solution for testing has been able to increase testing throughput by a factor of 4 and reduced the time to result by 50%. Working with the city of New York and in response to Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order, 202.19, as it relates to testing, renegade.bio is assessing front line workers and first responders throughout the city. The company has been able to rapidly accelerate testing throughput with partnerships in existing NYC CLIA-certified laboratories.

In collaboration with the laboratories and researchers across the ecosystem of public health, renegade.bio is working day and night to help expand COVID-19 testing. Phase 2 of the strategy involves a scale up of capacity at renegade’s Oakland- based CLIA facility to meet the needs of Bay Area front line workers.

Working in partnership with local city organizations and employee representatives, like unions, the company is working to provide peace of mind and COVID-19 status for the critical workers required during the shut-down period.

Though many of these workers are asymptomatic, the ability to be routinely tested is important to maintain the health and safety of the workers, their families, and the broader community.

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