



Re-Opening Manufacturing

Post COVID-19



How Re-Opening Will Happen Post-COVID-19

In part of reducing infection spread, governments are expecting businesses to take certain precautions as they begin to re-open. Governments want to speed up the pace of economic, educational, and community recovery while also protecting public health. As you come to understand best re-opening practices, it is important to keep in mind the following goals in re-opening.

- ✔ **SAFETY FIRST:** re-opening will be done safety and securely to protect vulnerable residents, continue physical distancing, and provide clear rules for businesses deemed safe to re-open.
- ✔ **SCIENCE-DRIVEN:** re-opening will rely on scientifically validated public health interventions. Testing, tracing, field studies, and public health guidance will be used to contain infection.
- ✔ **CHOICE:** businesses within sectors cleared for re-opening can decide when they will re-open. When they do, they must comply with regulations to protect employees and customers.
- ✔ **DYNAMIC:** expect re-opening plans to be adaptive and responsive to real-time concerns such as infection spread or public health guidance.
- ✔ **PREPARED:** governments will work closely with health care systems to ensure PPE is secured and bed and ventilator capacities are regularly assessed to ensure an optimal standard of care.

Anticipated Rules for Re-Opening

What Business will be Allowed to Re-Open

How Business will need to Operate

What Businesses Will Be Allowed To Re-Open

Be sure to check the rules for your regional governments, but primarily all governments are taking in the following considerations for re-opening the economy:

- ✓ **Staggering industries re-opening** to reduce the risk of a spike in cases and confirm it is safe to continue.
- ✓ **Assessing the risk of transmission for employees and customers** given the nature of a business's work and prioritizing businesses that have lower transmission risks.
- ✓ **Transmission risk is defined as contact intensity and adaptation potential of the business.** Businesses will be assessed on the contact proximity, contact length, and frequency of contact in the workplace, in addition to how able a business is to socially distance and sanitize as per regulations.
- ✓ **Assessing regional economic health** associated with number of employed individuals, GDP impacts, and impact on small businesses to recover from economic closure.

What Businesses Will Be Allowed To Re-Open

The complete list of businesses being allowed to re-open and re-opening dates will vary region to region, but below are common businesses that are being approved to re-open in the coming days.

ALREADY OPEN	Hospitals Utilities Waste Management	Essential retail Grocery stores Takeout restaurants	Construction Government services Transportation
REGION SPECIFIC DATES	Dine-in restaurants (limited capacity) Personal services (e.g. hair salons) Outdoor recreation	Schools Childcare Offices Museums Zoos	Remaining retail Non-essential businesses
FUTURE RE-OPENING	TBD		

How Businesses Will Need To Operate



While specifics may vary, many governments are recommending that:

- ☑ Businesses enforce capacity limits as much as 50% or less.
- ☑ Strict cleaning and disinfection protocols are developed and enforced in all settings.
- ☑ People in high-risk groups should continue to stay safe and at home.
- ☑ Facemasks should always be worn in public.
- ☑ Social gatherings will be limited, with gatherings more than 5 to 50 people being prohibited, depending on regional legislation.

As improvements in public health and favorable research occurs, you can expect governments will gradually loosen safeguards. However, many governments are anticipating this new wave of safeguards to last several months, up to September 2020.

Re-Opening Manufacturing Safely in COVID-19

Overview

Controlling the Risk of COVID-19 Exposure

Physical Space Set-Up

Resolving Concerns about Unsafe Work

Overview

Manufacturing facilities are expected to keep in mind the importance of the health and safety of their employees. This means taking caution and strictly following government-regulated protocols. If you cannot meet the following rules by your re-opening date, you should delay opening.

While these rules are meant to make re-opening as safe as possible, the risks cannot be fully eliminated. Employees need to be fully aware of potential risks before returning to work. **Where possible, employees are encouraged to continue working from home.** Likewise, employees who are high-risk (over the age of 65 or with other health conditions) should not return to work.

In some regions, employers are being required to create safety plans. These safety plans must assess risks of exposure and institute protocols accordingly. While a formal plan may not be required to operate immediately, expectations are that a safety plan is posted at every worksite for inspection as soon as possible. Consult your regional authority for your deadlines.

Employers are expected to take all necessary precautions to control the risks of COVID-19 exposure. This includes revising sick policies, educating employees as they return to work, supervising the implementation of the program, staggering shifts, and more.

Controlling the Risk of COVID-19 Exposure



Revising Sick Policy

Require anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. sore throat, fever, sneezing, coughing, etc.) to self-isolate for 10 days.

Plan for Re-Opening

Inform your employees on new rules and any additional precautions being taken.

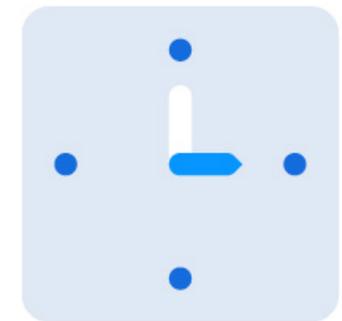


Program Administrator

Designate someone to overlook the implementation of these rules.

Shifts

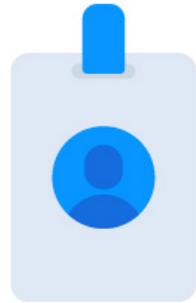
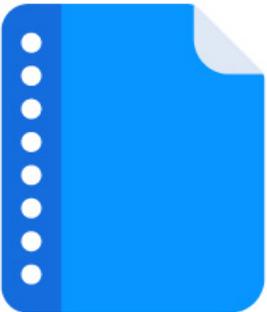
Stagger shift start/stop times and breaks times to minimize contact between employees.



Controlling the Risk of COVID-19 Exposure

Log Employees

Record all employees on premise throughout the day to support contact tracing.

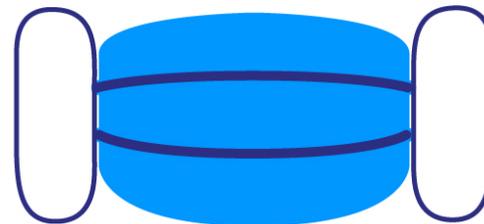


Limit Visitors

Reduce the amount of visitors and service providers allowed on-site. Restrict shipping and deliveries to designated areas.

Personal Protection

Estimate how much personal protection will be required for employees and begin securing.



Cleaning Plan

Construct cleaning checklists that clearly define employee responsibilities. Every day, complete a thorough cleaning of entrances/lobbies, bathrooms, kitchens, workspaces, tools, door handles, and high contact surfaces and objects.

Physical Space Set-Up



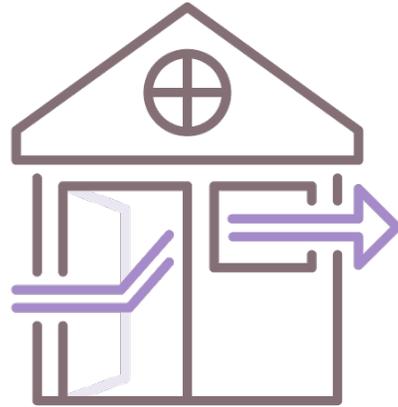
Controlling the risk of COVID-19 exposure can also be achieved by installing a variety of engineering controls. Every manufacturing environment is different but taking measures where possible can significantly reduce the spread of COVID-19 within the workplace and greater community.

Some examples of measures employers can take include increasing ventilation, installing barriers, shutting down amenities, and designating zones. The main exposure risks you should be considering when developing engineering controls are person-to-person transmission and contaminated surface transmission.

Physical Space Set-Up

Signage

Throughout the manufacturing plant, post signage that reiterates new policies such as social distancing, PPE expectations, and reporting symptoms.

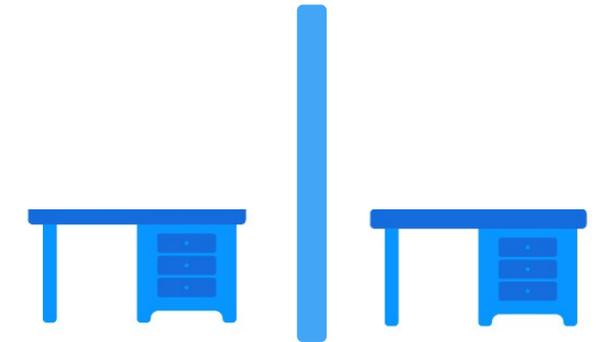
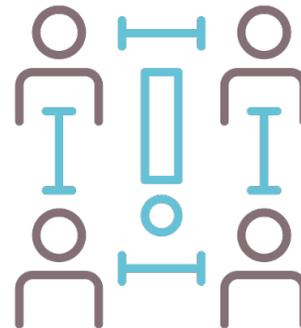


Ventilation

Increase ventilation and the amount of outdoor air that circulates into the system as much as possible.

Social Distancing Markers

Install visual markers on the floor to encourage employees to stay 6ft/2m apart in shared spaces.



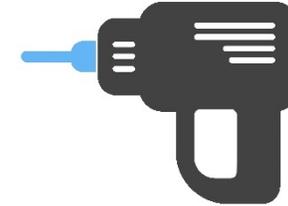
Barriers

Utilize barriers between employees where a 6ft/2m distance cannot be achieved.

Physical Space Set-Up

Shared Equipment

Limit the amount of equipment employees share and clean equipment that needs to be shared between uses.



Workspace Arrangement

Rearrange desks and workspaces so that employees are 6ft/2m apart. Stagger the desks so employees can avoid sitting opposite of each other, even if some desks need to be left empty and/or marked off.

Discrete Work Zones

Where possible, divide the workplace into zones and reduce movement between zones (e.g. departments stay on a single floor or area).



Physical Space Set-Up

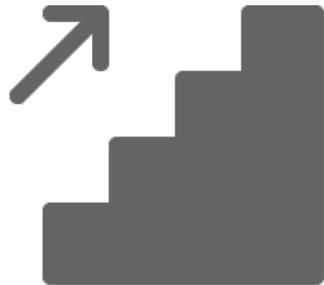


Non-Essential Amenities

Close or remove all amenities that are not essential to primary business functions. Some examples include coat rooms, vending machines, or coffee makers.

Elevators

Encourage social distancing for elevators through introducing queues, installing signage, and encourage alternatives where possible.



Touchless Appliances

Where possible, install touchless appliances such as door stops, paper towel, soap dispensers, and water fountains.

Hotlines

Post clear signage that includes hotlines for employees and customers to report violations or people displaying symptoms.



Resolving Concerns about Unsafe Work



For many jurisdictions and positions, workers have the right to refuse work they believe to present an undue hazard. An undue hazard is something that is “unwarranted, inappropriate, excessive, or disproportionate.” During COVID-19, examples of such hazards include increased risk of exposure and a lack of adequate controls.

If an employee refuses work and the matter is not resolved, both the employee and supervisor or employer must contact the regional work-governing authority. Afterwards, a prevention officer or governing agent can consult the situation and issue orders, as necessary.

