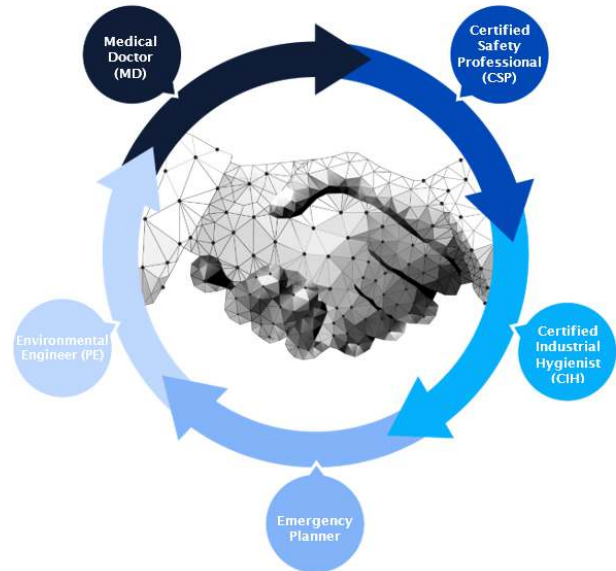


REOCCUPYING WORKPLACES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE AND AFTER REOPENING WORKPLACES

As COVID-19 quarantine requirements begin to subside, employers around the country are preparing to reoccupy their workplaces and project sites safely. This responsibility raises serious questions and concerns about how to protect employees, contractors, and visitors. It is important to make sure each workplace meets governmental, scientific, and medical guidelines prior to occupancy. From a medical perspective, the COVID-19 pandemic is constantly evolving regarding symptoms, exposure risk, and transmission. It is ultimately the responsibility of employers to ensure this pandemic does not adversely impact workplaces any more than it has already while continuing to minimize risks and liabilities. However, understanding and interpreting this ever-changing guidance and implementing effective pandemic preparedness plans requires a wide variety of expertise.



Compliance Management International (CMI) provides a team of safety, health, and environmental experts that are at the forefront of COVID-19 preparedness and planning. We have also teamed with one of the region's top pandemic medical doctors to ensure we constantly evaluate current "best practices" and provide the most effective back to work plans available. We specialize in risk-based approaches for evaluating workplaces. Once a workplace has been evaluated, a customized Pandemic Preparedness Plan (PPP) will be developed to ensure safe work practices are put in place to minimize the risk of transmission and exposure. There are many aspects to consider when developing a PPP that requires careful consideration such as:

Practice social distancing in shared spaces

Did you know that virus droplets and particles can travel as far as 24 feet from a cough or a sneeze? What measures should be implemented in shared use spaces, including production lines, lobbies, restrooms, elevators, cubicles, open workspaces, and food service areas?

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Did you know that COVID-19 virus particles can travel through certain face coverings including surgical masks? Many forms of PPE are being recommended (e.g. masks, gloves, respirators, face shields). Which are necessary and how can they be used most effectively for all employees?

Health and temperature screening

Did you know that certain thermometers can give false readings, depending on the outside environment? It is important to know the limitations and pitfalls of health and temperature screenings and how these processes can be optimized.

Cleaning and decontamination of shared spaces

Did you know that while cleaning a building prior to employee arrival is a good practice, it will only be a short time before recontamination occurs? What are reasonable cleaning and decontamination practices for shared spaces and should you test various areas for exposure risks?

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

To assist with reoccupying workplaces, our team offers the multi-disciplinary expertise to ensure your pandemic planning and implementation processes are successful. This includes advice from our medical and EHS professionals to ensure questions and concerns are answered promptly while revising procedures and communication methods accordingly. Services offered include:

Risk Assessment and Planning: Risk assessment and planning support for COVID-19 exposures, including unique and challenging work environments. Through virtual or on-site risk assessments, vulnerabilities will be identified and plans will be prepared to ensure continued productivity while ensuring compliance with guidelines and regulations.

Building Occupancy Procedures: Procedures to ensure recommended transmission reduction strategies are documented, communicated, and implemented. This includes traffic flow paths and signage; social distancing in mixed-use spaces; PPE; cleaning and disinfecting; contract tracing, case reporting and communication; and visitor/contractor notification processes. Also included are methods for handling contaminated waste materials and ensuring the storage of higher inventories of alcohol-based hand sanitizers and cleaning chemicals meets applicable code requirements.

Education and Communication Tools: A variety of tools and platforms will be provided and customized, as necessary, to ensure employees and visitors are provided with timely and appropriate information about building occupancy plans and guidelines. These can be delivered in a variety of formats, including customized webinars, on-line learning modules, newsletters, signage campaigns, or live sessions using social distancing protocols.

Pandemic Safety Officers: Provision of full or part time Pandemic Safety Officers to comply with state and local requirements and minimize the potential for COVID-19 to shut down or reduce the workforce. This also includes training and coaching of employers' in-house Pandemic Safety Officers to ensure the PPPs are being effectively administered and communicated.

Health and Temperature Screening: Provision of trained health screeners to conduct temperature monitoring and implement COVID-19 screening and analyses prior to allowing employees, contractors, and visitors to enter workspaces and project sites. Includes assistance with coordinating reporting protocols and screening area logistics.

Indoor Environmental Quality Sampling: "Touchless" sampling protocols, to perform any necessary air sampling or environmental testing while maintaining social distancing. This may include testing for COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) in environmental surface samples.



ABOUT US

Compliance Management International (CMI), specializes in developing practical solutions for the most challenging Environmental, Health, and Safety (EHS) issues that organizations face. This team incorporates the expertise of Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIH), Certified Safety Professionals (CSP), Environmental Professional Engineers (PE), Professional Geologists (PG), and Infectious Disease Medical Doctors (MD).

