Safety Committee COVID-19 Risk Assessment and Control Guidance 8-1-2020

The COVID-19 virus is an additional recognized hazard in the workplace. Multiple levels of safeguards (controls) are necessary to prevent or reduce the potential for exposure to the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19. An established COVID-19 Safety Plan with supporting protocols is a must at each business.

One of the first steps, is a COVID-19 worksite risk assessment. A joint committee of both hourly and salary workers taking a deeper look at job tasks, policies, and procedures for any potential COVID-19 spreading or exposures. The overall safety management system addressing social distancing, hygiene, cleaning, PPE, facial coverings, tooling, vehicles, machinery, disinfection, training, contractor and visitor protocols, travel, exposure, person of higher risks, chemicals must be assessed and select appropriate controls.

When completing the assessment talk to the workers of the area you are evaluating, to explain the work and procedures in place. Those who do the task can provide valuable information on how to control risks. Documenting the risk assessment is key. There are many different forms to choose from, there is no required form or risk assessment process. Controls or interim controls should be applied prior to continuing the specific task or operation.

OSHA has provided support:

Guidance on Preparing the Workplace: https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf Hazard COVID-19 Recognition: https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/hazardrecognition.html

Dividing the exposures into four different levels, as shown here: https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3993.pdf

Controlling hazards: https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/hazardoustoxicsubstances/control.html

CDC support:

Assessing Risk Factors for Severe COVID-19 Illness:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/covid-data/investigations-discovery/assessing-risk-factors.html

Investigating and responding to COVID-19 cases in non-healthcare work settings:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/non-healthcare-work-settings.html

Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Work Restrictions **for Healthcare Personnel** with Potential Exposure to COVID-19: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html

<u>IUE-CWA support:</u> Contact the Safety Department if you need assistance or additional resources for conducting a risk assessment.

COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

The following risk assessment form is to help your joint safety committee, document the recognized hazards and control each in your effort to safeguard everyone from spreading or being exposure to the virus. After the risk assessment is completed, the committee will also continuously monitor for any deficiencies or additional needs.

Recognized Hazard	Hazard Location(s)	Affects Who	Control	Champion	Closed Date	Confirm Control	Additional Controls
Plan			Do		Check	Act	
Find risks of COVID-19 in the workplace.	List all locations with this risk. (Recognized hazard)	List all those who may be affected by this risk. (Recognized hazard)	List a control measure for each recognized location to prevent risk. (Recognized Hazard) Utilize the Hazards of Control to ensure you choose the highest	Name of Person accountable to safeguard risk by applying	What date the control(s) were completed	Verify the control is safeguarding the risk. (Recognized Hazard)	Added controls for the risk of COVID-19 as found necessary. Re-start the hazard thru the assessment process if not eliminated.
Virus Exposure by not social distancing 6ft.	Breakroom	Workers Visitors Contractors	level of safeguarding. * Limit breakroom to XX amount of people. Rearrange break tables providing distance between seating * Tape areas to mark off distance of 6-ft providing a visual guide. * Post signage to inform * Stagger break times * Limit or provide break areas to specific groups	control(s).			emmatea.