Willis Towers Watson (WTW) COVID-19 Risk Control Protocol Sharing Survey

March 20, 2020

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A common refrain heard from many health, safety and risk leaders in these extraordinary times is some version of “now more than ever, we would benefit from knowing what others are doing in response to the COVID-19 outbreak”. In service of our valued clients and others interested in emerging best practices related to the COVID-19 workplace response, Willis Towers Watson recently commissioned a flash survey to surface and then share what leaders in the construction trade (and beyond) were experiencing, acting on/doing and still seeking solutions.

The initial results of over 150 construction companies from this survey are shared below for your use and application.

Below are current results and consistent themed practices and COVID-19 resources.

Q1 How do you best define the location of majority of your operations

Q2 Size of your Company (direct hire employees)
Q3 How are you managing the social distancing expectations (>6’’) – are you undertaking any guidance to limit / guide increased distance between workers by the following

### Consistent Themed Peer Practices

**Social Distancing**
- Morning Stretching and Toolbox Talk safety meetings to continue at a crew level while maintaining social distancing of 6 feet or more.
- Do not hold meetings of more than 10 people.
- Hold in-person meetings only when no other option, maintain social distancing and outside preferred.
- Eliminate community provided food & lunch areas (such as lunch buffets, donuts, candy dishes, etc…).
- Eliminate community coffee pots, water dispensers, and microwaves from break and other common areas.
- Reconfigure break spaces to allow “social distancing” of 6 feet.
- Stagger shifts and/or break times to allow social distancing when this is not achievable due to space limitations.
- Clean and disinfect break tables at the end of break.
- Establish a cleaning schedule and provide cleaning supplies for other high touch items (such as shared computer keyboard, touch screens, pens and other items).
- Work from home all office employees
Q4 Considering the recommendations regarding minimizing group gathering size to <10 persons – what steps are you taking actively on projects?

Q5 Are you conducting any jobsite screening?
Consistent Themed Peer Practices

**Jobsite Screening**
The screening should follow CDC recommendations and ask the following questions:
- In the last 14 days have you or anyone you have been in direct contact with had a confirmed case of COVID-19?
- Have you, or anyone in your family, been in contact with a person that is in the process of being tested for COVID-19?
- Have you traveled internationally, been on a cruise, or been to any domestic location categorized as Level 3 by the CDC in the last 14 days?
- Have you had a fever of over 100.4 degrees in the last 72 hours, without the use of fever reducing medication?
- Are you currently, or in the past 72 hours experienced coughing or shortness of breath?

If the person provides an affirmative response to any of these questions, they should not be allowed on site for a period of 14 days.

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**Q6 Are you providing additional handwashing areas, etc. – any other special new accommodations onsite?**
Consistent Themed Peer Practices

Sanitation
- Disinfected wipes for shared tool cleaning before and after use
- Increased cleaning of office areas, hand rails, door handles
- Hand sanitizer in various locations
- Glove liners
- Clean and disinfect break tables at the end of break.
- Establish a cleaning schedule and provide cleaning supplies for other high touch items (such as shared computer keyboard, touch screens, pens and other items).


Q7 Have you educated your workforce on COVID-19 using

Consistent Themed Peer Practices


AGC Resources
https://www.agchouston.org/
https://www.agc.org/coronavirus-covid-19

CPWR has developed guidance on COVID-19 in English and Spanish
https://www.cpwr.com/covid-19
Q8 Current status / presence of COVID-19: Has one of your onsite workers regarding COVID - 19

Q9 Availability and access to key material such as sanitizing and PPE is the following available in your supply chain
Q10 How useful / value added is the information you're getting on COVID-19

- Too Much: 34.19% Yes, 66.67% No
- Too Complex: 8.11% Yes, 93.69% No
- Not Construction Specific: 62.18% Yes, 37.82% No
- Contradictory: 29.63% Yes, 70.37% No
- Need other Languages: 41.58% Yes, 58.42% No

Q12 Are you prepared to suspend work at any project in the near future?

- Yes: 81.45%
- No: 18.55%
### Consistent Themed Peer Practices

**Shut Down of Projects**
Please remember to institute special care, custody, and control measures over any of your facilities and/or sites under your control that are idled in response to the Covid-19 emergency. We suggest that you maintain these measures until normal operations resume. Specific actions to consider include:

- Prepare detail project specific shutdown plan
- Check with local jurisdictions for specific guidance
- Things to remember in your plan
  - Assign a person to visit the location at least daily
  - Plan periodic off-site meetings and / or telephone conferences with clients, design team, contractors, unions, etc. for status and any new measures
  - Verify alarms are in service and the building is secure.
  - Verify adequate heat is maintained in all areas
  - Verify all fire protection systems remain in service
  - Traffic control is in left in place and inspected regularly.
  - Ensure public sidewalks are maintained safely in accordance with DOT and local governmental authorities, free of ice, snow, grease, debris, tripping hazards, etc.
  - Temporary lighting shall remain illuminated.
  - As applicable, the construction site must be enclosed with a construction fence in accordance to the local regulatory agency and or department.

And, remember to update your emergency phone lists and share a copy with the persons visiting or guarding your locations. The emergency phone list may include: fire, police, management, utilities (electric, gas, water), sprinkler contractor, etc.

*This is not all inclusive just thought provoking*

**Resources and example shutdown plans**
- [https://files.constantcontact.com/780c69bb001/8f14c40c-afb1-486a-ba81-62a5a8377ae4.pdf](https://files.constantcontact.com/780c69bb001/8f14c40c-afb1-486a-ba81-62a5a8377ae4.pdf)
COVID 19 resources


AGC Resources

https://www.agchouston.org/
AGC Houston COVID – 19 Recommended Practices ENGLISH:
AGC Houston COVID – 19 Recommended Practices SPANISH:
https://www.agc.org/coronavirus-covid-19

Center for Construction Research and Training

https://www.cpwr.com/covid-19

Government Additional Resources

OSHA Publication: Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
OSHA Record keeping:
https://www.agc.org/sites/default/files/Files/Safety%20%26%20Health/OSHA%2C%20the%20Coronavirus%20Pandemic%20%26%20Recordkeeping.pdf

EEOC: What You Should Know About the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and COVID-19
EEOC: Pandemic Preparedness in the Workplace and Americans with Disabilities Act

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Each applicable policy of insurance must be reviewed to determine the extent, if any, of coverage for COVID-19. Coverage may vary depending on the jurisdiction and circumstances. For global client programs it is critical to consider all local operations and how policies may or may not include COVID-19 coverage.

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