



Ensure a safer working environment when returning to work under new conditions

In a world where COVID-19 is a reality, businesses are returning to work under “new normal” conditions. The UL Start Safe™ Playbook is our framework to consistently return to work safely.

Businesses are rising to the challenge

54%

of employees in the U.S. say they are worried about exposure to COVID-19 at work.¹



70%

of businesses say they feel confident they can provide a safe working environment for employees.²

Significant changes in daily operations, physical space configuration and work protocols combine to provide safety in a new reality.

New reality



A $\geq 25\%$ reduction in contact rates for adults, combined with a 95% reduction in contact rates for older adults, could reduce the number of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19 by $\geq 78\%$ during the first 100 days.³

Innovating for a safer start

Reconfigure physical space to reduce transmission.

- Reduce occupancy with staggered schedules for employees.
- Develop interim workplace design, spaced workstations, reduced common spaces.

COVID-19 can survive up to 24 hours on cardboard, 2–3 days on plastic and stainless steel, and can remain in droplets in the air for up to 3 hours.⁴



Adjust audit practices and provide critical services.

- Refrain from exchanging documents; request documents via emails or photograph.
- Prior to site visits, outline review plan to limit visits to the production floor.
- Ask on-site personnel to handle samples.



74%

of CFOs and businesses expect some portion of their workforce to become permanent work-from-home employees after the pandemic ends.⁵

Assess employee roles and determine which can continue to achieve full productivity while working from home.

- Develop an evaluation to make this determination.
- Assign a leadership team at each geographic location to conduct and communicate this evaluation.

Sources:

1– Eagle Hill Consulting National Poll, April 2020.

2– PWC, “COVID-19 CFO Pulse,” May 11, 2020.

3– Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Evaluating the Effectiveness of Social Distancing Interventions to Delay or Flatten the Epidemic Curve of Coronavirus Disease,” April 2, 2020.

4– Harvard Health Publishing, COVID-19 Basics, June 1, 2020.

5– Gartner, “Some May Work from Home Permanently After COVID-19,” April 13, 2020.

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