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.

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

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

A ≥ 2.5% 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 ≥ 78% during the first 100 days.³

Businesses are rising to the challenge

Reconfigure physical space to reduce transmission.

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

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.

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.

74% of CFOs and businesses expect some portion of their workforce to become permanent work-from-home employees after the pandemic ends.⁵

Sources: