COVID-19: Strategies for Managing Health Hazards on Construction Sites

Hosted Jointly By: ASSP Construction & Environmental Practice Specialties

Agenda Overview

- Introduction/Overview of COVID issues for Construction Sites
- Risk Ranking & OSHA Compliance
- Healthy Business Operations Plan
- ANSI A10-49 Job Health Hazard Assessment Plan
- COVID-19 OSHA Hierarchy of Controls and Real World examples for construction activities
- Summary: Practices, Resources Overview and Continuing the Dialogue (ASSP Chat)
History Repeating Itself
HIV, Asbestos, Lead Paint & COVID-19

- Was a safety officer in a hospital in 1980s when HIV hit. Taught BBP for Red Cross
  - Learned universal precautions
  - Learned F-E-A-R!
- Was one of the first licensed asbestos professional in Illinois in 1986.
  - Learned invisible hazards can kill you but can also be controlled.
- Started my consulting firm in 1990 when lead paint became heavily regulated.
  - Learned the importance of routes of exposure.
  - Learned importance of good hygiene & cleaning practices.
- Currently teaching COVID-19 preparation & response
  - Learned common sense can be taught on what is uncommon
Comply with Existing OSHA Regulations

- Hazard Communication Standard
  - Awareness Training
  - SDS for hand sanitizers, detergents, and disinfectants
- Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
  - Not a perfect fit, but provides a good model for universal precautions
- Personal Protective Equipment & Respiratory Protection Standards
  - PPE is most likely not necessary for COVID-19 in most construction activities
- General Duty Clause
  - Work site “free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm”

OSHA Guidance on COVID-19

1. Develop an Infectious Disease Preparedness & Response Plan
2. Prepare to Implement Basic Infection Prevention Measures
3. Develop Policies and Procedures for Prompt Identification and Isolation of Sick People
4. Develop, Implement, and Communicate about Workplace Flexibilities and Protections
5. Implement Workplace Controls – Hierarchy of Controls
Jessica Jannaman
Innovation & Development Chair
Environmental Practice Specialty

A little bit about myself | Jessica Jannaman

- MS| Oakland University
- Lean Black Belt| Oakland University
- FCA| Stamping| Powertrain | Assembly
- Global Experience
- ASSP Past President Greater Detroit Chapter
- Oakland University Adjunct Professor

Advanced Safety & Engineering
Auditing & Management Systems
Team Facilitator
Pre-Production Launch Activities

10 YEARS
13 OEM Plants
43 Tier 1 Plants
DURA is inspired to play a significant role in the evolution of mobility. As vehicles transform to lightweight and electric architectures, our focus on disruptive technologies will enable superior performance and value creation.

**Facts & Figures**

- **2018 DURA and GAS $1.4 BILLION SALES**
- **9,400 EMPLOYEES**
- **31 MANUFACTURING LOCATIONS**
- **14 COUNTRIES** includes Tech Centers

**Approaches for COVID-19**

- **Limit the number of people in the plants.**
- **Use video conferencing where possible and eliminate meetings.**
- **Physical guards, ventilation, designed distancing and air circulation.**
- **Social Distancing, washing hands, disinfecting & sanitizing.**
- **Masks, gloves, respirators & face shields.**

**Diagram:**
- **Eliminate /Avoid Exposure**
- **Substitute**
- **Engineering Controls**
- **Administrative Controls**
- **Personal Protective Equipment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Task Type &amp; Activity</th>
<th>Frequency of Exposure</th>
<th>Control(s)</th>
<th>Risk Reduction (Red, Yellow, Green)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility Use</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through droplets (coughing, sneezing) and contact of surfaces.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Screen prior to entering the building. Open air ventilation through windows and doors (no individual fan vents).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathrooms</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Bathrooms: Potential exposure to COVID-19 through use of the bathroom.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Detailed disinfection, hand washing and sanitizing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break Areas &amp; Cars</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through contact of tables, microphones, refrigerators and doors.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Detailed disinfection, hand washing and sanitizing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Clocks</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through contact of time clock.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Hand sanitization at time clock and wipe for after use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembly Lines</td>
<td>Assembly &amp; Production</td>
<td>Spread through droplets (coughing, sneezing) and contact of surfaces.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Employee checklists, hand washing and sanitizing. Children where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Work Cells</td>
<td>Handoff</td>
<td>Spread through droplets (coughing, sneezing) and contact of surfaces.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Employee checklists, hand washing and sanitizing. Children where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Areas</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through droplets (coughing, sneezing) and contact of surfaces.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Detailed disinfection, hand washing and sanitizing. Children where possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Rooms</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through contact.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Ventilating rooms, improve ventilation and temperature control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Tables, Mills &amp; Offices</td>
<td>General Use</td>
<td>Spread through contact.</td>
<td>RED</td>
<td>Building doors and windows for after use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What Does a COVID-19 Business Plan Look Like?

- Talking the same language and providing guidance.
- Planning “What If” scenarios and coaching others.

How Do We Use This Business Plan?

- Standardization is Key
- Open Communication
- **DAILY** Discussions
- Best Practice Sharing
- Tools to Support
Job Health Hazard Assessment (JHHA) Plan

OSHA on COVID-19: Classify Exposure

- Very High
  - Typically healthcare related (aerosol generation)
- High
  - Typically healthcare related (COVID-19 patients)
- Medium
  - Work within 6 feet/High contact with others
- Low
  - Minimal contact with workers & public
ANSI/ASSP A10.49 Standard Performing Health Hazard Assessments

- **Scope:** Establishes minimum requirements for controlling health risks on demolition and construction operations.
- **Provides procedures** for identifying hazard and risk potentials of COVID-19 that will fit into the existing safety management system.
- **Identifies exposure tasks** (<6 feet and common surface contact).
- **Use hierarchy of controls** to reduce/eliminate risks.

Update Existing JHAs: Getting everyone on the same page

- **Re-evaluate** JHAs on job tasks that could be impacted by fewer workers or by changes in how the task is performed.
  - Retrain workers on updates
- **Workers taking on new and/or unfamiliar tasks**
  - Train workers and provide additional oversight
- **Increased separation impacts communication**
  - What works in the office may not work in the field
  - Ensure communication systems provide timely information
Be Proactive… Not Over-Reactive

- Learn to address the hazards… Calm the F-E-A-R
  - ANSI A10-49 “Identifying potential health hazard exposures”
- Re-Evaluate JHAs & provide communication/training
  - Knowing what not to do is just as important as knowing what to do.
  - Teach workers “how to fish” – the why is just as important as the what
- Implement common-sense and effective universal precautions when the hazard is invisible
- Mandatory PPE is typically not necessary for most.

Matthew Palmeri, CSP, ASP, CHST
Asst. Administrator
Construction Practice Specialty
Construction Best Practice Examples

- Work remote (support staff)
- Stagger breaks
- Stagger shifts
- Limit new hire orientations
- Ban tobacco products (chewing, smoking, vaping…)
- PPE
  - Face masks
  - Nitrile gloves
  - Face shield / goggles
- RTW letters for sick employees
- Waiting period for employees who have recently traveled
- 6' personal separation at all times
- Pre-work temperature scans
- Provide additional PPE / hand washing stations

- Make your own masks / hand sanitizer / cleaner if products are unavailable
- One person per vehicle, buggy etc.
- Revise other administrative controls (training, plans, SOPs…)
- Allocate crew for cleaning equipment, tools
- Prevent cross contamination between office and field employees. Segregate if possible.
- Provide extra time at the end of the day for employees to sanitize tools, work area.
Construction Practice Specialty (CPS)  
Environmental Practice Specialty (EnvPS)

**Why Join CPS or EnvPS?**  
- Networking with top construction and environmental safety professionals  
- Discounts on group-sponsored webinars and conference presentations

**For Info or to Join: [www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org)**  
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**COVID 19 – Continuing the Discussion**

- You can find this recording & ppt in two places - ASSP:  
  - CPS and EnvPS community pages  
  - And on the COVID-19 page, webinars [https://www.assp.org/covid-19](https://www.assp.org/covid-19)

COVID-19 DISCUSSIONS page: questions, best practices or comments to add  
[https://community.assp.org/discuss/viewcategory/104](https://community.assp.org/discuss/viewcategory/104)

COVID-19 RESOURCES: ASSP, OSHA, CDC/NIOSH, CPWR, other