



Working Through COVID-19 for Construction

Crum & Forster greatly values our customers and their dedication to operations during these difficult times. Information is key to the development of emergency preparedness programs.

While the majority of the population is advised to stay home under quarantine, there are jobs in the construction industry that will need to be performed to maintain U. S. infrastructure. To achieve this, the companies and workers who perform these critical tasks will need to take special precautions for their safety, the safety of their families, and to protect the community from unnecessary spread of COVID-19.

Be Mindful

The determination of continuity of construction work throughout the course of the COVID-19 event warrants additional safety measures and program review. Consider essential workers, family of workers and general public exposure controls for the construction work to be undertaken. Weigh the benefits and hazards associated with such work.

Be Smart and Informed

Before continuing and/or engaging in work, regularly review state, federal, and municipal government website updates to ensure appropriate decision making. See attached CDC, OSHA and State of Oregon resource links.

Be In Communication

Check with your clients to see if they have any special precautions your employees will need to follow. Let them know the precautions you will be taking and discuss ways to minimize unnecessary person-to-person contact. Remember to communicate any special instructions to subcontractors and vendors who will be at the work area as well.

Be Diligent and Review Contract Provisions - Insurance Policies

Review of existing and/or proposed contracts need take place with respect to provisions relating to unforeseen events, conditions and or delays. Many contracts include a "Force Majeure" clause which may address the inability to perform work caused by events or factors beyond your control. Depending on the specific contract language, it may address restrictions stemming from the COVID-19 event's impact.

Be Safe and Manage Risk Thoughtfully

- Take measures to reduce the amount of contact between workers (stagger breaks, discourage hand shaking, etc.).
- Ask employees who are ill or have been in close contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19 to stay home.
- Increase sanitary practices including disinfecting work areas, instructing employees not to touch their face, and providing hand sanitizer and/or hand washing facilities.
- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves (latex, nitrile, etc.) and protective respiratory masks (N95, N99, N100, or HEPA masks).
- Train employees in hand washing, PPE use and care, and avoiding the spread of communicable diseases. Communicate expectations.
- Have a plan for what to do if an employee begins showing signs of illness while at work.



[Interim Guidance for Business and Employers](#)



[Detailed Disinfection Guidance](#)



[Print Resources](#)



[Videos](#)

OSHA/HHS Guidance

- [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Health and Safety Resources for Contractors](#)

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