

Safe working practices during the COVID-19 pandemic



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The Panel



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Introduction to

ISO PAS 45005

Occupational health & safety
management

**Safe working during the
COVID-19 pandemic**

General guidelines for
organization



Background

- May 2020: BSI developed the Safe Working Guidelines as a free resource
- Written with the input of a broad range of experts
- Regular public consultation
- 3 iterations in 3 months
- Submitted to ISO to be developed as a global document



Background

- Developed in the OH&S committee as an ISO publicly available specification
- Consensus achieved in 2 weeks with experts from 31 countries and 3 international liaison organizations
- Ongoing 8 week approval ballot to the 100 countries in the technical committee (closes end of November)
- Publication anticipated December 2020



Overview

- This is a generic document, suitable for any business regardless of size, location or type
- Developed to reflect good practice from trusted sources across the world
- Plans to review and update if necessary, as knowledge grows & the situation changes



Comprehensive, practical advice for any organization

- Identifying and managing COVID-19 risk in all types of work settings
- Adjusting where, how and when you work – for individuals and as a whole
- Consulting with workers for the best possible outcomes
- Recognizing the importance of well-being and psychological health



- Managing outbreaks in workplaces and in mobile or home workers
- Dealing with contact tracing, testing and quarantine
- Responding effectively to sudden changes in restrictions or rules
- Managing hygiene and effective use of face coverings and PPE
- Communicating, monitoring and improving how you manage risks



Q & As

Ask the panel

COVID-19



Your questions

If working from home is 100% effective – and works for the individual –
is it advisable to return to the office environment when lockdown ends?



Your questions

How do we maintain physical distancing during work activities?



Your questions

How do we communicate that we would like to make some practices compulsory - because they are in everyone's best interest - but we can only make them voluntary?



Your questions

It is challenging to advise on sites with multinational and multicultural engagement.

How can we best manage our duty of care for workers, especially when official advice keeps changing?



Your questions

Lifestyle is a significant factor in transmission of COVID-19.

How can we address risks presented by workers' lifestyles in a respectful, ethical and legal way?



Your questions

In manufacturing we need people to be hands on and time efficient in order to manage production and be profitable.

How can we do this in without compromising health ?



Your questions

What do you think the long term effects on business will be if this pandemic is long term?

Should we plan permanent changes in the way we work?



Your questions

Are face visors replaceable with face mask as face covering?

Is wearing a mask all day safe, especially for manual labourers?

How can we educate people to use masks safely and effectively?



Your questions

How can we effectively audit if organizations are not allowing on-site visitors or travel is unsafe?

Is remote auditing effective?



Your questions

There is confusion about quarantine and the impact of seasonal illness, like flu.

Do we send everyone home who coughs? Do we ask them to keep working while a test is carried out? Do other workers have to isolate until test results are known?

What is a sensible and practical way of managing quarantine?



Your questions

How can we best ensure COVID-19 safety measures are maintained once people are back in the workplace or working in various locations?



Your questions

What can we do about people who do not want to comply with safety measures, especially when advice changes or official figures are perceived to be ignoring safety?



Your questions

How can organizations assess if they doing enough to manage COVID-19 risks - or if they are going too far?



Your questions

How can small organizations manage cleaning and hygiene, especially in shared spaces?



Your questions

How can we support people's mental health and well-being?

How can we manage so many different needs and expectations?





Get involved

- comment on new drafts through BSI & other standards bodies
- join the mirror committee in your country
- follow the ISO work at <https://committee.iso.org/home/tc283>

download the guidelines here:

<https://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/topics/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-guidelines/>

Contact sally.Swingewood@bsigroup.com for more information