

SAFETY TALK

April 7, 2020

Hand Hygiene for COVID-19

Hand hygiene minimizes the risk of infection. Proper hand washing and hand sanitization helps prevent the transfer of infectious material from the hands to the eyes, nose, and mouth or to other surfaces that are touched.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available and hands are not visibly dirty, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Hand hygiene is an important routine at the workplace. Each person is expected to wash or sanitize their hands:

- **Prior to starting work** – to limit the potential for anything that has been deposited on our hands prior to arriving at work being transferred to surfaces at work.
- Before and after eating, drinking and smoking.
- After using the toilet
- After handling any shared tools or equipment
- **Prior to leaving work** – to limit the potential for anything that has been deposited on our hands at work being transferred to other surfaces outside of work.

In construction there are a number of actions that we can do in our workplace to promote and implement hand hygiene. Those actions include:

- Posting instructional signage for how to wash hands at wash stations and how to use hand sanitizer at dispenser locations.
- Reminding each other, especially when we are arriving and leaving the workplace to wash / sanitize our hands.
- Wearing gloves, besides being a safety requirement, reduces the likelihood of workers touching their eyes, nose or mouth.
- Launder work gloves regularly and replace with new gloves, as required.

Project specific mitigations include:

- Installing hand wash stations in multiple locations, especially where workers enter / exit the workplace and near washrooms.
- Installing hand sanitizers in multiple locations, especially near lunchrooms, water coolers, hoist entrances, etc.
- Regularly inspecting hand wash and hand sanitization stations to keep them stocked. If they are empty tag them “out of service” until they have been replenished.
- Regularly clean and disinfect hand wash and hand sanitization stations to prevent them from becoming sources of contamination.

Practice hand hygiene away from work to stay healthy and fit for work.

THINK SAFETY
WORK SAFELY



SAFETY TALK

Blank area for safety talk notes.

Project: _____ Address: _____
 Employer: _____ Supervisor: _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____
 Number in Crew: _____ Number Attending: _____

Other safety concerns or suggestions:

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
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15.		

Manager's remarks: _____

Manager: _____ (signature) Supervisor: _____ (signature)