

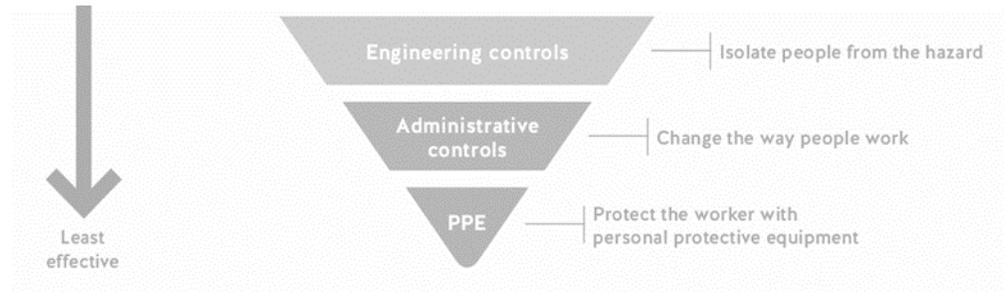
SAFETY TALK

April 18, 2020

Safe Work Practices and COVID-19 Controls

All project tasks and Safe Work Practices need to be verified that they include the controls necessary to keep workers safe from transmission of COVID-19, especially for those tasks where workers may be within the standard social distancing space of 2 meter (6ft.).

Provincial health and safety regulations require employers to select controls based on the hierarchy shown here (note that “elimination and substitution” are not control options available during a global pandemic). PPE is the least effective control and every consideration must be given to implementing engineering and administrative controls before PPE.



Engineering Controls:

Examples include locking doors to restrict access to offices, using work area containments and enclosures to separate workers and providing workers with their own tools and PPE to avoid sharing. Establish cleaning and disinfecting protocols for any shared tools & equipment.

Administrative Controls:

Examples include designating single contractor work areas, holding meetings in large spaces to maintain distancing, reorganizing tasks so that workers can maintain distancing, cleaning and disinfecting shared spaces/tools/equipment, using “positional markers” to stage workers so they maintain distancing and not handing paperwork around between workers for them to sign-off on safety meetings and hazard assessments.

Personal Protective Equipment:

Examples include clothing, gloves, face shields, safety glasses and respiratory protection.

Acceptable controls to protect workers from transmission of COVID-19 continually evolve based on recommendations from the Public Health Authority. To be current with these recommendations, regularly review industry safety association and OHS regulation websites for guidance.

THINK SAFETY
WORK SAFELY



