Best Practices for Businesses to Reopen
MANUFACTURING

PREPARE THE BUILDING

• Zone the factory floor and encourage employees to remain in their designated area to the extent possible.
• Place partitions such as plexiglass to separate people that work together in the production process.
• Increase ventilation rates and the percentage of outdoor air that circulates into the system.
• Assemble a team whose responsibilities include implementing and monitoring guidelines provided by the CDC, OSHA, the State, and by the company.
• Share your procedures with your supply chain in advance to communicate expectations for all visitors.

PREPARE THE WORKFORCE

• Train employees in current COVID-19 health guidelines to include procedures for social distancing, timeclock usage, use of common areas, disinfecting and proper PPE usage. Include training in daily safety meetings to remind everyone of their responsibilities.
• Offer teleworking where appropriate. Give employees flexibility regarding returning to the factory/office.
• Implement a daily screening process for workers and other personnel which include CDC or MDH recommended health questions and consider temperature testing.

SOCIAL DISTANCE PLANNING

• Stagger shift start/stop times, break times, and lunchtimes to minimize congregations at the time clocks or break areas.
• Mark floors and work areas with 6-feet distance markers to remind workers to social distance.
• Separate chairs in training rooms/break rooms to ensure social distancing.
• Keep team members consistent in an effort to isolate and contain any potential outbreak.
• Establish an essential operations team consistent for each shift to mitigate the spread of illness.
• Modify routine shift hand-off meetings to limit interaction where possible.

REDUCE TOUCH POINTS, CONTROL ACCESS & INCREASE CLEANING

• Provide employees easy access to hand washing or hand sanitizers, and require employees to wash/sanitize hands at the beginning and end of each shift, before and after lunch or any other breaks including restroom visits.
• Clean and disinfect ‘high-touch’ surfaces in accordance with CDC guidance, at least as often as each shift change and/or product line change.
• Provide protection and disinfecting materials at timeclocks to prevent spread of infection.
• Open or remove doors where possible to reduce or eliminate touched surfaces.

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

• Provide appropriate signage about safety protocols throughout the workplace.
• Build workforce confidence by frequently communicating procedures and expectations on minimizing the risk of exposure.

For more information go to open.maryland.gov/backtobusiness

All Executive Orders still in effect must be complied with. See most up to date orders here: governor.maryland.gov/covid-19-pandemic-orders-and-guidance.