



# CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The construction industry which employed over 1.17 million workers has since returned to full production in South Africa. COVID-19 prevention and control measures must continue to be put in place to provide and maintain a working environment that is safe and without risk to the health of the employees and other stakeholders.



## 1 CONDUCT A RISK ASSESSMENT

Update or conduct a health risk assessment to include SARS-Cov-2 as a hazard prior to commencement of construction activities. Risk assessment-informed controls should follow the hierarchical approach.



## 2 PROVIDE EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Educate workers about SARS-Cov-2 including its transmission and mitigation.



## 3 WORKER MANAGEMENT SCREENING

- » Conduct daily symptom including fever monitoring for all workers and persons entering the workplace or site; and maintain a register for future contact tracing.
- » Identify vulnerable employees and manage them according to Departments of Employment and Labour, and Health directives and guidance.
- » Symptomatic workers must be quickly placed in an isolated area and further managed in line with Departments of Health, and Employment and Labour guidelines.
- » Sick workers must be encouraged to stay away from work, but follow HR leave procedures and contact their health provider in advance to alert them of COVID-19 symptoms.



## 4 ENSURE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- » Maintain at least 1.5 metres between individuals.
- » Where tasks require workers to be in close contact, physical barriers and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must be provided.
- » Reduce number of individuals involved in activities at any one time to a minimum.
- » Restrict access to closed or confined spaces and where possible increase ventilation.
- » Occupancy of transport vehicle (if provided) must be in line with applicable regulations and guidelines.
- » Consider shift work.



## 5 ENFORCE HYGIENE PRACTICES

- » Frequently touched surfaces or shared equipment (e.g. machinery, tools, tool boxes, vehicles) must be regularly cleaned and disinfected using approved products.
- » Workplace changing, ablution and eating facilities, must be hygienic and cleaned as frequently as possible.
- » Provide accessible handwashing facilities (water and soap) and where not feasible provide 70% alcohol based hand sanitiser.



## 6 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- » Workers should be provided with appropriate PPE based on the risk assessment.
- » Workers shall be trained on how to wear, remove and - where appropriate - dispose of their PPE properly.
- » Re-usable PPE should not be shared between workers and should be cleaned after every use.
- » Cloth masks are not PPE and should only be utilised in line with national guidelines.



COVID-19 Workplace Preparedness & Prevention  
HEALTHY, SAFE & SUSTAINABLE WORKPLACES

Workplace Hotline: 0800 2121 75

Occupational Health Surveillance System [OHSS]

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