COVID-19 – Safety in Action – An Example from the Job Site

Presentations and/or Q&A with:

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Construction and COVID-19 Updates
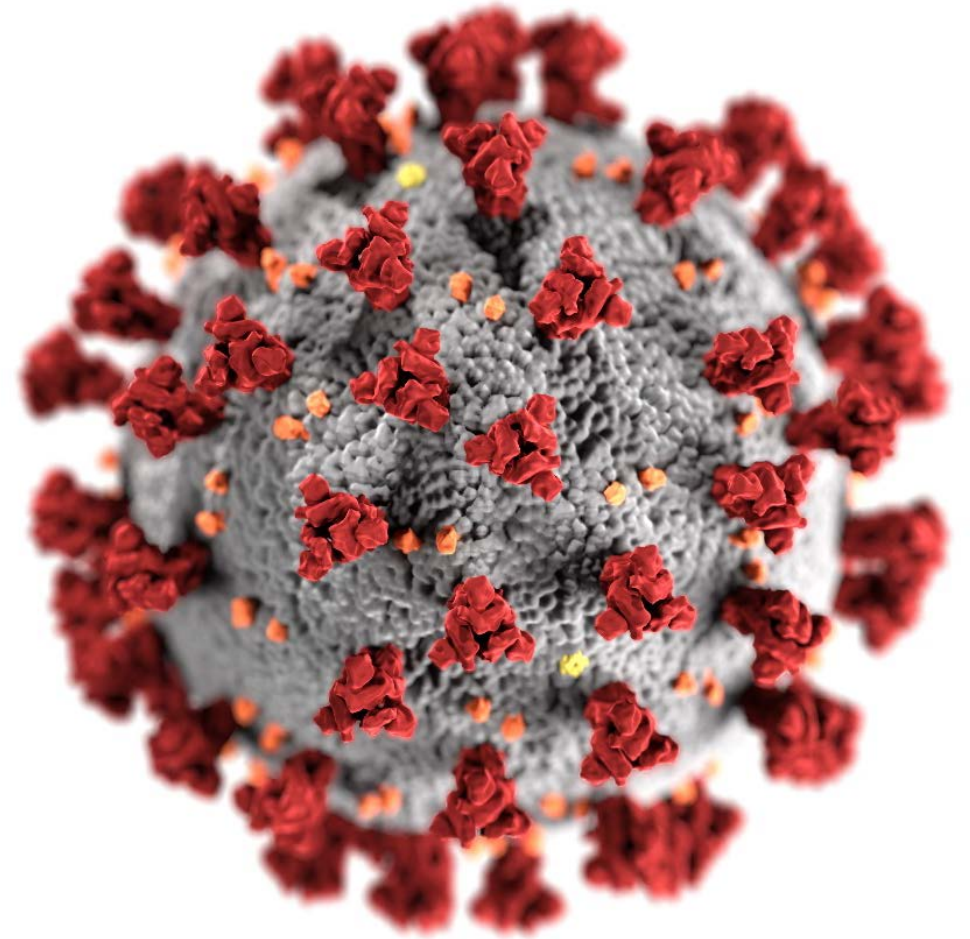
G. Scott Earnest, Ph.D., P.E.

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

2 July 2020

cdc.gov/coronavirus

COVID Topics

- MMWR articles
  - Hospitalizations, Emergency Room Visits
  - Ease of Transmission, Support for Public Health
- Resuming Business Toolkit
  - Employer sheet
  - Restart Readiness Checklist
  - Worker Protection Tool
  - Returning to Work Infographic

Hospitalizations were **6** times higher and deaths **12** times higher for COVID-19 patients with reported underlying conditions*

MOST FREQUENTLY REPORTED UNDERLYING CONDITIONS

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

DIABETES

CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE

*compared to those with no reported underlying health conditions

CDC.GOV

bit.ly/MMWR61520

MMWR

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6924e2.htm?s_cid=mm6924e2_e&deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM30615

In the 10 weeks following the declaration of the COVID-19 national emergency, visits to emergency departments declined for:

Heart attack
23%

Stroke
20%

Uncontrolled high blood sugar
10%

People who are experiencing symptoms of these or any life-threatening conditions should **seek immediate emergency care**, even during the COVID-19 pandemic

CDC.GOV   bit.ly/MMWR62220   MMWR

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6925e2.htm?s_cid=mm6925e2_w

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6919e6.htm?s_cid=mm6919e6_w

U.S. adults reported widespread support
of public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19*

88%

Agree people should always keep at least 6-feet apart

CDC.GOV

82%

Agree groups of 10 or more people should not be allowed

bit.ly/MMWR61220

80%

Support stay-at-home orders and nonessential business closures

*Online survey of 1,676 U.S. residents May 5-12, 2020

MMWR

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6924e1.htm?s_cid=mm6924e1_w

Resuming Business TOOLKIT
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

CS 317193-A May 27, 2020 2:07 PM

This toolkit includes the following materials:

Employer Sheet to introduce employers to the contents of the toolkit and how to use the materials in non-healthcare workplaces

Restart Readiness Checklist to help make returning to work and resuming business operations as safe and healthy as possible for employers, employees, and the public

Worker Protection Tool for employers to identify protective measures for workers when interacting with each other and the public

Returning to Work Infographic to remind employees how to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 and address their potential concerns about returning to the workplace

Resources to easily access additional information using hyperlinks, URLs, and QR codes

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/Resuming-Business-Toolkit.pdf

Restart Readiness Checklist

For Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Use this checklist (for non-healthcare employers) as a guide to resuming business operations as safely and healthy as possible for you, your employees, and the public. Some items may need to be ongoing, so regularly revisit the checklist while COVID-19 cases exist. Only complete those items that apply to your business. See the Resources section for links and QR codes to web resources.

Conduct a hazard assessment of the workplace.

Item	Completed	Ongoing	Not Started	Not Applicable
Identify potential hazards that might expose workers to COVID-19.	☐	☐	☐	☐
Use the Worker Protection Tool to identify appropriate engineering, administrative, and personal protective equipment (PPE) options for your workplace.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Plan for what to do if an employee is sick at work.

Item	Completed	Ongoing	Not Started	Not Applicable
Immediately separate employees who appear to have symptoms [6] from others in the workplace.	☐	☐	☐	☐
Have a procedure for safe transport of a sick employee to home or a healthcare facility.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Develop an action plan for suspected/confirmed cases.

Item	Completed	Ongoing	Not Started	Not Applicable
If it has been fewer than 7 days since the sick employee has been in the facility:				
Close off areas that have been used by the sick person for long periods of time (e.g., their desk or workstation).	☐	☐	☐	☐
Wait 24 hours (or as long as possible), then clean and disinfect [12] the area.	☐	☐	☐	☐
Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation during the waiting period.	☐	☐	☐	☐

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/Resuming-Business-Toolkit.pdf

Resources referred to throughout the Toolkit

1. Coronavirus (COVID-19)
   go.usa.gov/xvHEE

2. Workplaces During the COVID-19 Pandemic
   go.usa.gov/xvucp

3. Restaurants and Bars During the COVID-19 Pandemic
   go.usa.gov/xvuc7

4. Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
   go.usa.gov/xvHma

5. Directory of local health departments
   bit.ly/LHDDirectory

6. Symptoms of Coronavirus
   go.usa.gov/xvHmR

7. What to Do If You Are Sick
   go.usa.gov/xvHsF

8. Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID-19 Not in Healthcare Settings
   go.usa.gov/xvHem

9. Caring for Someone Sick at Home
   go.usa.gov/xvHew

10. When and How to Wash Your Hands
    go.usa.gov/xvz7T

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/Resuming-Business-Toolkit.pdf

For More Information

- CPWR COVID-19 Clearinghouse http://covid.elcosh.org/

- CDC COVID-19 Construction: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/construction-workers.html

- CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html

- CDC Prepare your Small Business and Workers for the Effects of COVID-19 website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-small-business.html

- NIOSH Directory of Construction Resources: https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/default.html

- OSHA COVID-19 Construction: https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/construction.html

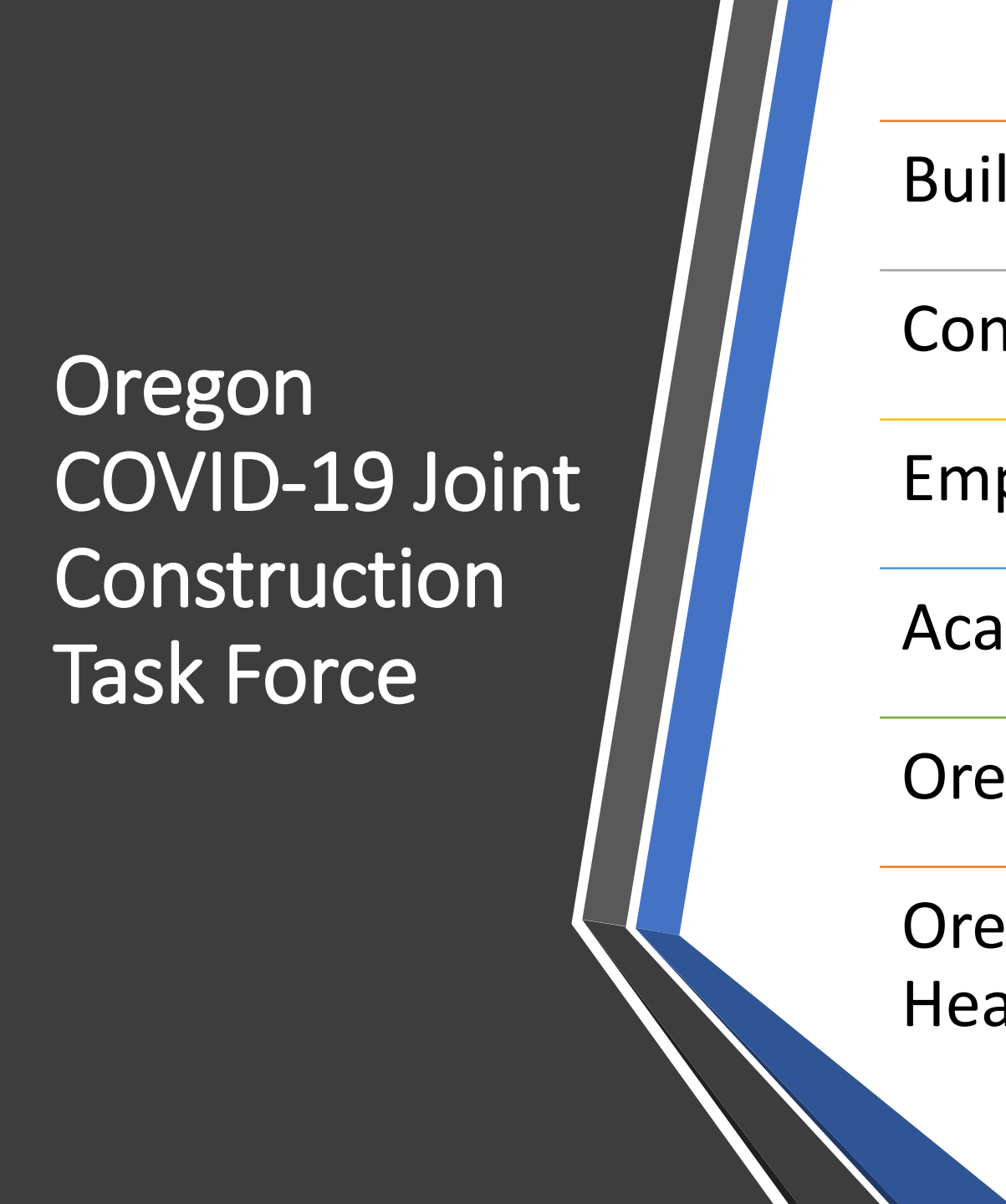- CDCINFO: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) | TTY: 1-888-232-6348 | website: www.cdc.gov/info

COVID-19 Safety in Action –
An Example from the Job Site
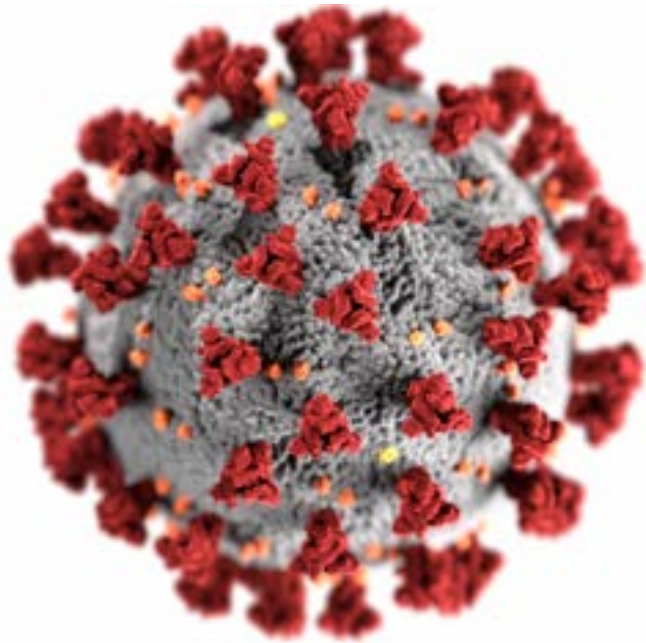
Matt Eleazer, President,

International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local 1 Oregon/Washington/Idaho/Montana

& Oregon COVID-19 Joint Construction Task Force Member

Oregon COVID-19 Joint Construction Task Force

Building Trades Unions

Contractors

Employer Representatives

Academics

Oregon OSHA

Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

Oregon COVID-19 Joint Construction Task Force

Zoom Meetings 2 to 5 times a week
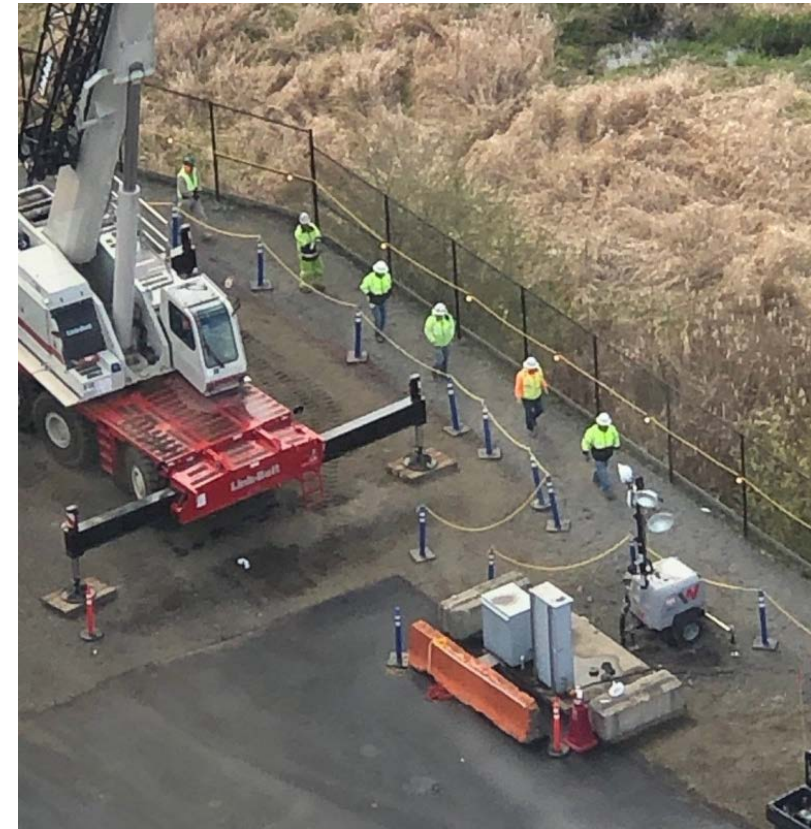
Small groups assisted by Oregon OSHA consultants visiting jobs

Monitoring health information and government guidelines

Identifying and sharing information and best practices

Marking Choke Points and Walking Areas
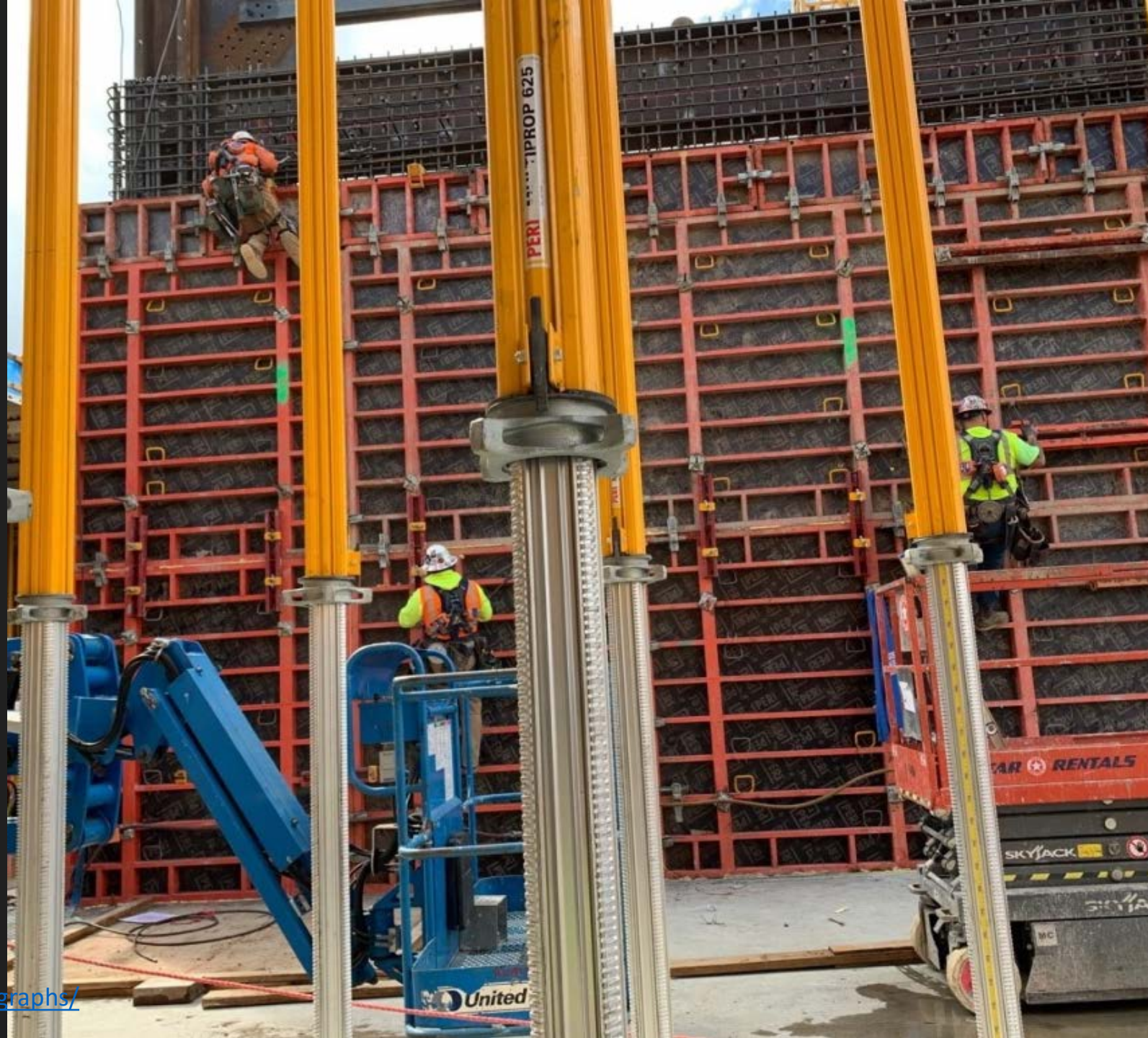
Photos courtesy of the Oregon Building Trades http://www.oregonbuildingtrades.com/covid-19-safety-photographs/

Designating Separate Entry and Exit Points

Photos courtesy of the Oregon Building Trades http://www.oregonbuildingtrades.com/covid-19-safety-photographs/
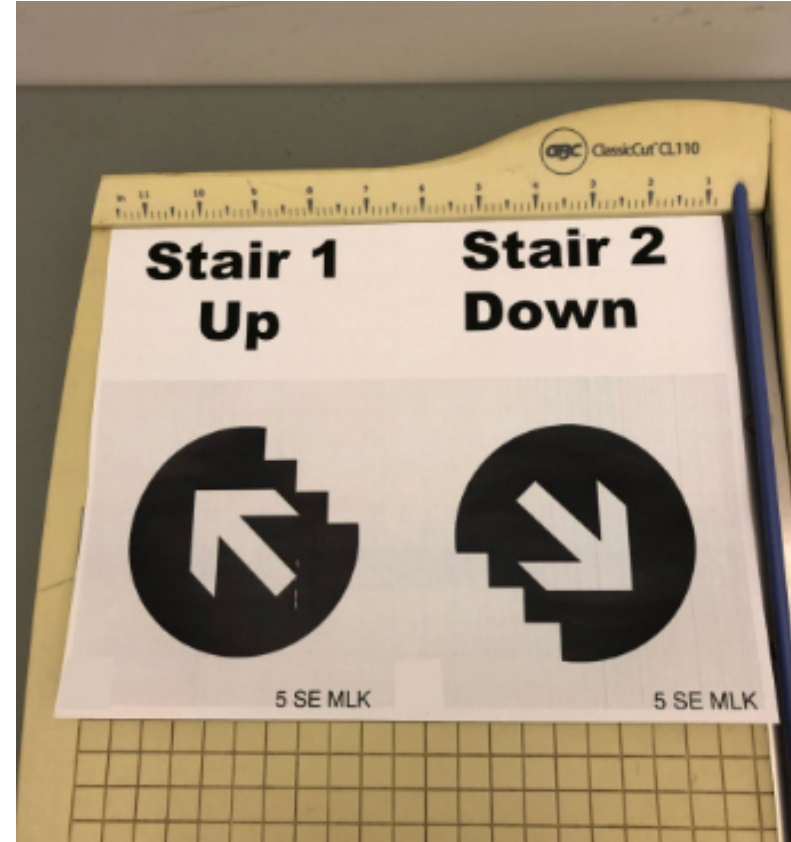
Adjusting Crew Work Areas

Addressing Sanitation – High Touch Areas

Creating Solutions

Hand sanitizer station with SDS
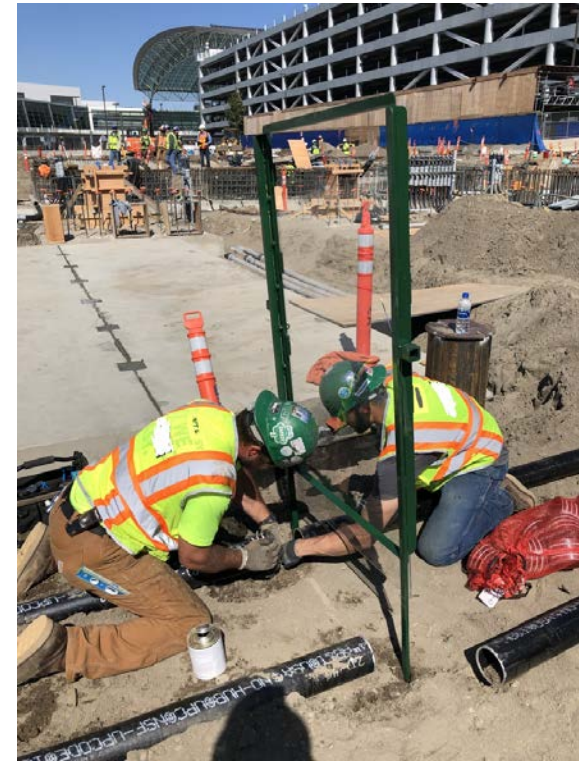
Worker with plexiglass between them

Photos courtesy of the Oregon Building Trades http://www.oregonbuildingtrades.com/covid-19-safety-photographs/

Communication and Training

Questions

How are you limiting groups to fewer than 10 people?	communicating
How do you plan on minimizing the amount of people in one area?	communicating
How are you going to maintain the 6ft distance during work and social activities?	By staying aware
Are there any other items that need addressed to maintain a safe workspace?	No

Daily Reminders: Discuss the following with your crew each day.

Personal Hygiene

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer often at least 60% alcohol
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sneeze into our elbow when you cough or sneeze
- Don't touch your face, eyes, nose or mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
- If you are not feeling well, do not come to work. If not feeling well at work, you need to go home. If you have symptoms possibly related to COVID-19 please contact your personal medical provider and let your supervisor know you are staying home for self-quarantine.

Requirements

- Maintain 6ft of separation between yourself and others.
  - This includes during work, walking into or around the jobsite, walking in occupied offices or buildings and during social activities.
  - [...] supervisor if you have issues maintaining your 6ft distancing
- Only two people are allowed in a UTV/ ATV (if the [...]
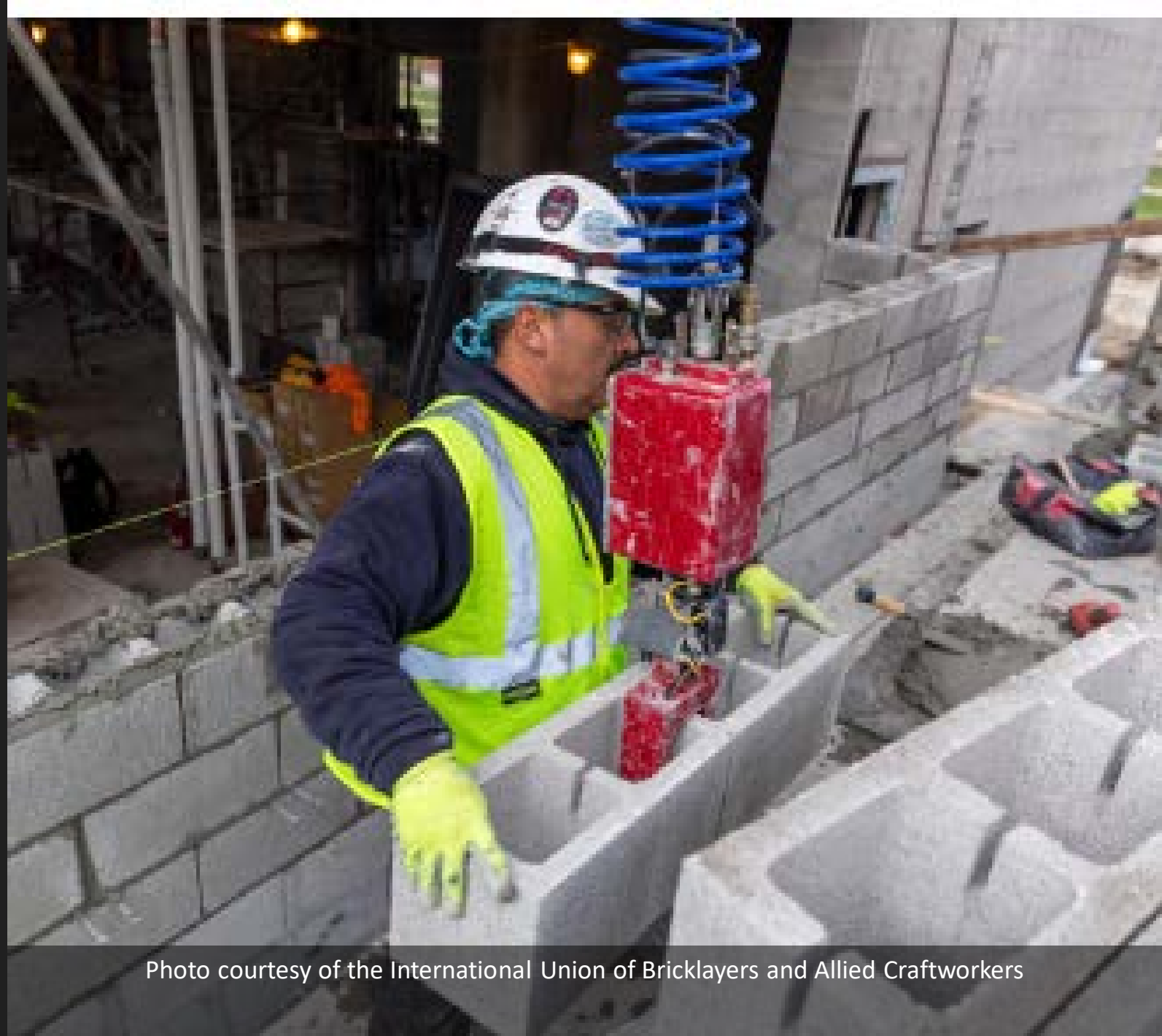
Addressing Challenges #1: Limiting Manual Materials Handling

Photo courtesy of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
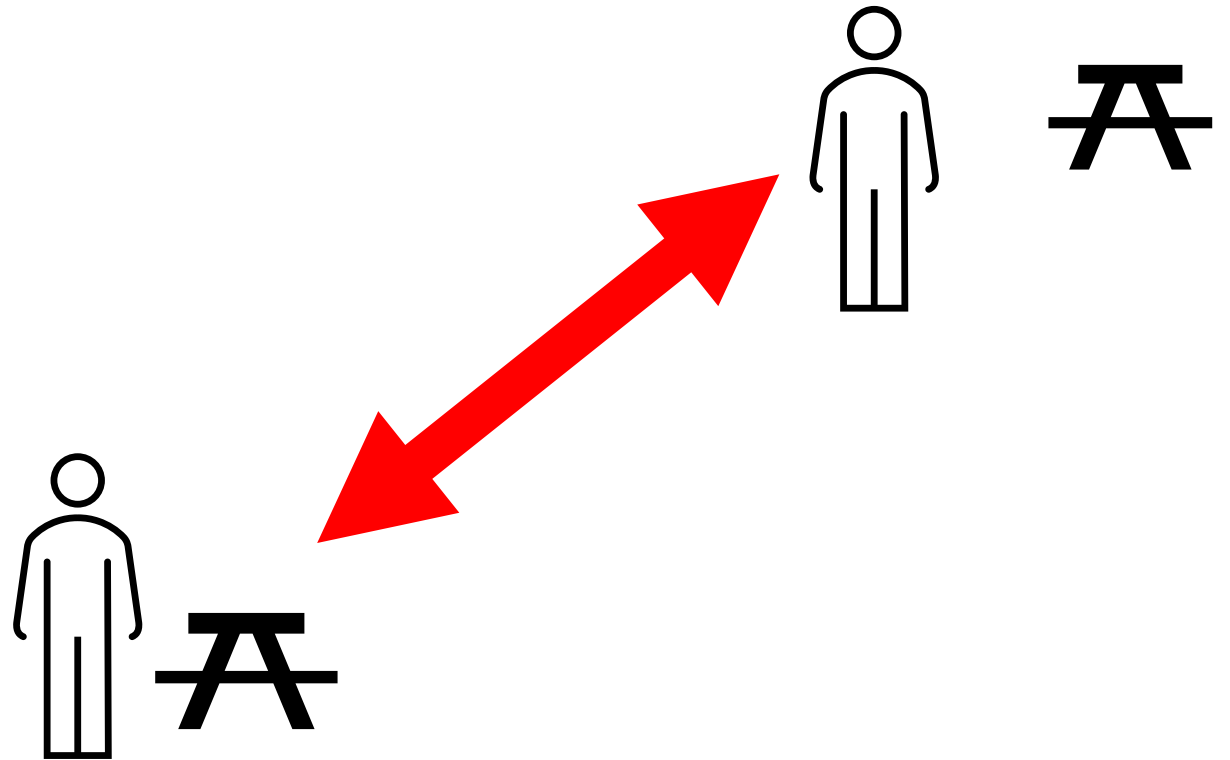
Addressing Challenges #2: Making it Easier to Breathe

Addressing Challenges #3: Keeping the Next Generation Safe During Training

SAFETY IS NOT AN OPTION! IT'S A PRIORITY!

Local 1
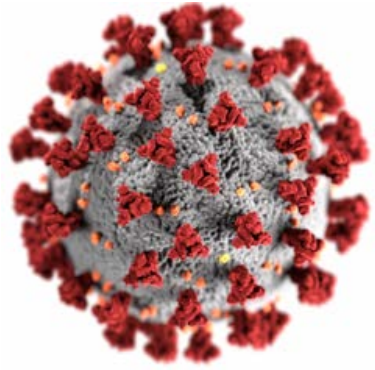INTERNATIONAL UNION OF BRICKLAYERS AND ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS
OR/WA/ID/MT

Raising Awareness and Encouraging Workers to Practice New Safety Procedures

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An Example from the Job Site

Questions ?

Safety Glasses Example

https://tinyurl.com/amzn-safety-glasses