

Office of the Governor of Iowa  
Kim Reynolds  
State Capitol  
1007 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319

The Honorable Governor Reynolds,

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Knoxville Raceway, Iowa**

Knoxville Raceway is known as the 'Capital of Sprint Car Racing' and widely acknowledged as the premier Sprint Car racing facility in the World. Located at the Marion County Fairgrounds, Knoxville Raceway has been in operation since the late-1800s and hosted its first automobile race in 1901. More than 100 years of history has ensured Knoxville Raceway's reputation as an industry-leader in automobile competition, safety, and operational excellence.

For the past five decades Knoxville Raceway and the World of Outlaws have worked together to stage some of the largest and most significant Sprint Car racing events in the World and that annually culminate with the Knoxville Nationals, the largest multi-day sporting event in Iowa in terms of participation and attendance. Auto racing fans from across North America and Canada, and from around the World, travel to Iowa in their tens of thousands to enjoy the beauty and hospitality of the State, and the excitement of the races.

## **World Racing Group / World of Outlaws**

World Racing Group (WRG) is the leading dirt track motorsports sanctioning body in the World. Through its World of Outlaws and DIRTcar Racing brands WRG sanctions, organizes, and/or promotes 5,600 dirt track motorsports events every year across the country. The World of Outlaws brand competes in front of more than a million live-event attendees every year, and this year alone has seen its event broadcast nationally on the CBS Sports Network and FOX Sports. Through its dirt-track racing brands the World Racing Group, and the World of Outlaws, the organization is acknowledged as one of the four major pillars of automobile racing in North America, the others being NASCAR, IndyCar, and NHRA.

## **Iowa Department of Public Health and Center of Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines**

As an event organizer WRG has created a comprehensive set of Operational Procedures consistent with IDPH and CDC Guidelines for a limited-in-scope dirt-track motorsports event at Knoxville Raceway that will help protect the local Marion County community and Iowa State residents, as well as essential Raceway Staff, WRG Race Officials, and Participants.

The Operational Procedures have been written with consideration to all the relevant IDPH and CDC Guidelines and are mindful to slow the spread, mitigate resurgence, and prepare for the possibility of outbreaks of COVID-19, enabling Knoxville Raceway to operate on a most limited basis possible to deliver an auto racing event.

- IDPH Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- CDC Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation
- CDC Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities
- OSHA Guidance for Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

To this extent Knoxville Raceway and WRG will introduce a '**CLEAN-COVER-CONFINE**' mantra that will encourage all attendees to practice good health and hygiene [**COVER**], ensure all equipment and surfaces are consistently and thoroughly disinfected [**CLEAN**], and as much as possible stay within designated areas and with only family/team cohorts and minimize social interactions [**CONFINE**].

## **Seeking Permission: To Conduct a Most Limited Basis Auto Racing Event**

Knoxville Raceway, in conjunction with WRG, is seeking permission to conduct a most-limited-basis possible World of Outlaws Sprint Car race on Friday, May 8. The “Behind Closed Doors” event will be conducted with the safest minimum possible attendees while observing IDPH and CDC Guidelines and policies at all times. The attendees will be delineated into three groups:

- Knoxville Raceway Essential Staff
  - Facility Management, Fire & Safety, Security
- World of Outlaws Racing Series Officials
  - Race & Technical Operations, TV Broadcast Engineers
- Participants and Race Teams

### ***There will be no spectators at the event***

If permission is granted to conduct this “Behind Closed Doors” auto race both Knoxville Raceway and WRG will need approximately one week to mobilize their respective resources to safely conduct a successful event.

## **State of Industry**

Prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic automobile racing was enjoying a boom period with attendances across all forms of motorsports enjoying an upward trajectory.

It is neither Knoxville Raceway’s nor WRG’s desire to be the ‘First’ to return to racing in response to commercial pressures, but rather to be the ‘Best’ in demonstrating the use of best practices to assist sporting organizations generally, the motor racing community specifically, as well as to city, county, and State government officials around the country.

As States across the country begin to ease restrictions on businesses and the general public, in the coming weeks it is our belief that all the major motorsports organizations in North America will tentatively return to competition with “Behind Closed Doors” events.

## **Why this is good for State of Iowa**

The auto racing industry in Iowa is extremely robust, supporting the State economy through a variety of motor racing industry-related businesses, from racing facilities to race-car and related-equipment builders and constructors to full-time auto racing teams. There are 52 auto racing venues in Iowa, 42 of which host dirt-track racing events.

- More than 1,000 events staged annually
- More than 5,500 competitors
- More than 1.1-million spectators attended auto racing events in Iowa in 2019
- Annually more than 25,000 people – a mixture of full-time and part-time - are employed by auto racing venues in Iowa

Knoxville Raceway's leadership position within dirt track racing nationally and internationally, and in the State of Iowa specifically, will provide a pathway for all racetracks to safely return to operation in the coming weeks and months. It is our hope that with a showcase success at Knoxville Raceway the World of Outlaws could continue to make progress in its return to racing across the country and potentially at additional venues in Iowa as well.

## **In Conclusion**

Nationally, there are 1,226 auto racing tracks in North America, 610 of which are dirt track racing venues; the operators and managers of these tracks will be closely observing what happens at Knoxville Raceway in the coming weeks and taking their cues for how to act and safely return to competition. The "Behind Closed Doors" event on May 8 will be televised live across North America and around the World via the DIRTVision streaming platform and will be viewed by hundreds of thousands of auto racing fans and motorsports industry professionals across multiple social media platforms. As potentially the first "live" nationally-renowned auto racing series to return to competition the eyes and ears of the world will be on Knoxville Raceway to witness the first sounds of engines roaring, indicating Iowa, and North America, is on track – literally and figuratively – to returning to normal.

# Exhibit One – *Attendees*

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- 1 x Event Organizer Senior Leader
- 1 x Event Organizer Manager
- 1 x Facility Owner
- 1 x Facility Manager
- 1 x Admission
- 1 x Public Relations
- 2 x PA Announcer
- 1 x Flagman
- 1 x Parking Supervisor / Pace Truck Driver
- 1 x Corner Worker
- 1 x Bathroom Attendant
- 1 x Track Photographer
- 4 x Track Preparation Crew
- 16 x Dedicated Push Trucks
- 6 x Recovery Specialists in three (3) Trucks
- 8 x Fire-Safety Specialists in Fire-Rescue Vehicle
- 6 x EMT-Paramedics in Ambulances - (*COVID-19 Screening Coordinator*)
- 2 x Uniformed Officers
- 3 x Security Guard
- 4 x Core Race Officials – (*Series/Race Director, Scoring, Pit Steward, Tech*)
- 4 x Supplemental Race Officials – (*Pit Steward #2, Track Steward, Registration, Coordinator*)
- 48 x Driver
- 192 x Crew Member – (*Four (4) per race car*)
- 6 x Competitor Support – (*Hoosier, VP & Parts*)
- 12 x Event Organizer Designated Sponsors/VIP Guests/Board Members
- 8 x Broadcast Crew
- 1 x Local Government Monitor

**Total: 333**

# Exhibit Two – *Track & Facility Information*

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**LOCATION:** Knoxville Raceway, 1000 N Lincoln Street, Knoxville, IA 50138

**EVENT DATE(S):** May 8, 2020 (*May 9, 2020 Rainedate*)

**EVENT NAME:** World of Outlaws Invitational

**COMPETITION/SERIES:** World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Cars

- i. 410-cubic inch open-wheel winged sprint cars

## KEY CONTACTS

Title	Name	Cell Number	Email
<b>Event</b>			
Facility Owner/Rep	John McCoy	641.891.4395	Johnm@knoxvillraceway.com
Facility Manager	Kendra Jacobs	704.619.9638	Kendraj@knoxvillraceway.com
WRG Event Director	Jeff Hachmann	315.283.3367	jhachmann@dirtdcar.com
WoO Series Director	Carlton Reimers	704.467.7642	creimers@dirtdcar.com
<b>Senior Leadership</b>			
Event Organizer Leadership	Brian Carter	704.425.5386	bcarter@dirtdcar.com
Event Organizer Leadership	Ben Geisler	704.699.4565	bgeisler@dirtdcar.com

## CURRENT COUNTY MANDATES IN PLACE (*County*)

- i. No additional supplementary mandates to State orders (as of April 27, 2020)

## CURRENT STATE PROCLAMATION - Issued 4/27/20 effective May 1-27, 2020 (*State*)

- i. **Proclamation Overview:** In the 77 counties, the proclamation permits restaurants, fitness centers, malls, libraries, race tracks, and certain other retail establishments to reopen in a limited fashion with public health measures in place. In addition, the proclamation lifts the restriction on religious and spiritual gatherings so long as churches and other gathering hosts implement reasonable public health measures. All other regulatory relief previously provided to affected Iowans is also extended until Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

- ii. **Race Tracks:** A speedway or race track, other than a track conducting horse or dog races, may reopen its operations provided that it does not permit any spectators to attend its events in person.

**FACILITY** [see map below]

- i. **ONE (1) ENTRANCE(S):** Property Gate Entrance – Gate 1
  - i. COVID-19 Screening
  - ii. Pit Admission - 1
  - iii. Security - 1
- ii. **ZONE 1: Staging**
  - i. Pit Steward
- iii. **ZONE 2: Official Area**
  - i. Race Officials
- iv. **ZONE 3: Pit Area 1**
  - a. Permitted Access only
    - i. Competitors – 22 (groups of 5)
    - ii. Broadcast - 2
- v. **ZONE 4: Pit Area 2**
  - a. Permitted Access only
    - i. Competitors – 22 (groups of 5)
    - ii. Hoosier / VP / Parts – 6
    - iii. Broadcast - 2
- vi. **ZONE 5: Pit Area 3**
  - i. Competitors – 15 (groups of 5)
  - ii. Broadcast - 2
- vii. **ZONE 6: Safety Area**
  - i. Wrecker/Push Truck – 4
  - ii. Fire Safety - 4
  - iii. Ambulance – 4

**viii. ZONE 7: Safety Area**

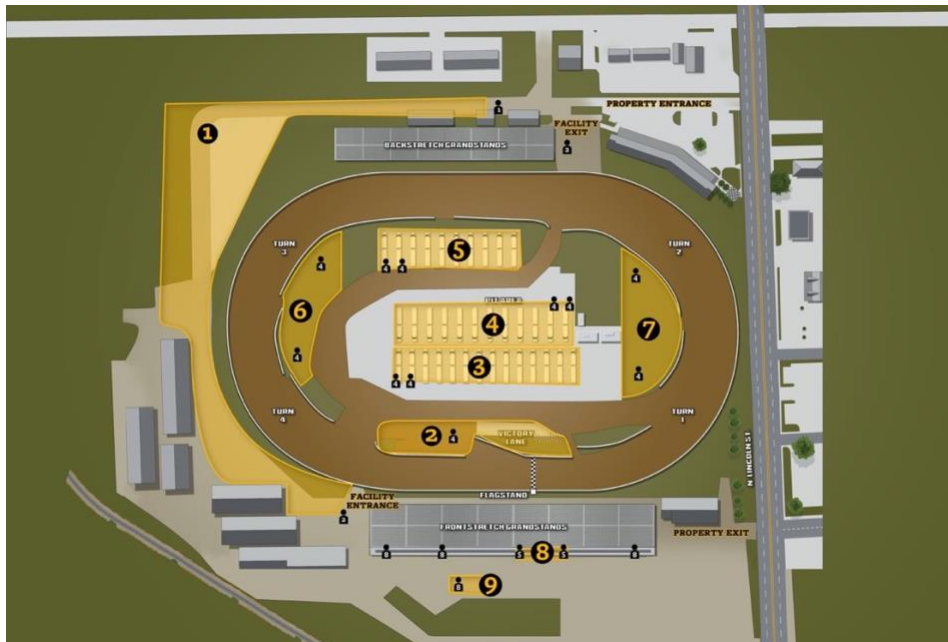
- i. World of Outlaws Command Center - 4
- ii. Wrecker/Push Truck – 4
- iii. Fire Safety - 4
- iv. Ambulance – 4
- v. Bathroom Attendant - 1
- vi. VIP - 12

**ix. ZONE 8: Control Tower**

- a. Permitted Access only
  - i. Race Operations – 4
  - ii. Raceway Senior Leadership - 2
  - iii. WRG Senior Leadership – 2
  - iv. Broadcast – 2

**x. ZONE 9: Grandstand and Surrounding Areas**

- a. Permitted Access only
  - i. Event Operations – 2
  - ii. Medical Personnel - 1
  - iii. Security/Gate Staff – 2
  - iv. Broadcast – 2





# Exhibit Three – Timed Event - *Competition Format*

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- **Staff and WRG/World of Outlaws Officials arrive: 1pm**
- **Participants & Event Staff arrive: 3-5pm**
- Hot Laps & Qualifying (*2 laps*)
- Invocation & Anthem (*Recorded*): 7:25pm
- **Racing: 7:30pm**
  - Heats – 4 (*8 laps*)
  - C-Main (*10 laps*)
  - Dash (*6 laps*) - Top 8 – 2 from each heat
  - Last Chance Showdown (*12 laps*)
  - Feature (*30 laps*)
    - Lined up by Dash finish and remaining qualifying cars through heats
  - Victory Lane
    - Driver & Team Members
    - Photographer & PR (*if applicable*)
    - Broadcast Crew & Announcer
- **Event completion: 9:30pm**
- **ALL Track Exit: 10:30pm**

## Single-Feature Purse (\$10,000 to win)

\$10,000.00	\$2,050.00	\$800.00
\$5,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$800.00
\$3,200.00	\$1,500.00	\$800.00
\$2,800.00	\$1,200.00	\$800.00
\$2,500.00	\$1,100.00	\$800.00
\$2,300.00	\$1,050.00	\$800.00
\$2,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00
\$2,100.00	\$900.00	\$800.00

# Exhibit Four – *Participant Guidelines*

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In preparing for the return to racing you will read about **[CLEAN-COVER-CONFINE]**. As the country, and motorsports in particular, gradually eases back into business it is important to remember that everyone needs to remain aware of reducing and eventually eliminating the spread of COVID-19. Keeping these three simple words in mind as you go about your business will enable all of us to work toward the time when tracks will reverberate to the sound of race cars and the cheering of race fans.

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## 1. PRE-EVENT

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### a. HEALTH

- i. If Participant is sick or displays symptoms of COVID-19, STAY HOME
- ii. Covid-19 Symptoms includes Fever, Muscle Pain, Cough, Headache, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Sore Throat, Loss of Taste or Smell, Chills or Repeated Shaking with Chills.
- iii. CDC COVID-19 Symptoms/Symptoms of Coronavirus Guidelines:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

### b. PERSONAL HYGIENE

- i. Participants should wash hands with soap and water every 20-minutes throughout the day...Sanitizer should ONLY support hand-washing, not take the place of. **[CLEAN]**
  - ii. Participants should wash hands after being in a public place, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing; preparing and/or consuming food. **[CLEAN]**
  - iii. Participants should avoid touching their face. **[CLEAN-COVER]**
- i. CDC Hand-Washing & Hand Sanitizer Guidelines:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

**c. PREPARATION**

- i. Forty-eight (48) car field by Invitation ONLY (*Series Director and Track Promoter*).
- ii. Entry & Pit Pass payment must be submitted by May 4, 2020 (*Monday*) at 5pm EST.
- iii. Participants are encouraged to bring cloth Face Cover (*or similar*) and Gloves...PLEASE DO NOT use any medical-style Face Masks or Gloves that would otherwise be used by a health care worker. Special consideration may need to be given to the fact that some Staff will be communicating via 2-way or 1-way radios. **[COVER]**
- iv. Event Organizer and/or Officiating Crew will provide Participants with Participant Notes & Event Guidelines no later than May 6, 2020 (*Wednesday*) .
- v. Participants should be prepared to stay in Race Haulers or Personal Motorhomes following event, but not onsite at Knoxville Raceway. Parking for Motorhomes is located off the backstretch across Larson St. (*Old Pamida Building Lot*).

**[CONFINE]**

**d. CLEANING**

- i. Participants and Race Teams shall professionally clean & disinfect all equipment prior to arrival to the Facility. **[CLEAN]**
- ii. It is highly recommended that all trucks, trailers, motorhomes and personal vehicles be actively disinfected through a wipe-down process by individual attendees prior to arrival at the Event. Professional cleaning services may be considered by some Participants. **[CLEAN]**

**e. CONSIDERATIONS**

- i. If you live with someone over the age of 65 or with underlying medical conditions, you should consider staying home or be prepared to self-quarantine upon your return. **[CONFINE]**
- ii. CDC 'How to Protect Yourself & Others' Guidelines:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

**f. TRAVEL**

- i. Participants should travel and attend with household contacts only if possible.

**[CONFINE]**

- iii. CDC Travel Considerations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>

## **2. EVENT EXPERIENCE**

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**a. KEY TIMES**

- i. 3-5pm: Participants Arrival
- ii. 7:30pm: Racing
- iii. 9:30pm: Event Completion
- iv. 10:30pm: ALL Exit

**b. ARRIVAL**

- i. Participants will not be allowed to enter the Facility before 3pm and ALL TEAMS should arrive together with their confirmation letter and ALL five (5) Attendees (*Driver & Crew Members*) . Participants in personal vehicles should arrive at the same time as their Race Hauler. ALL Participants must enter facility between 3-5pm.
- ii. Upon arrival to the Facility you should be prepared for a COVID-19 Screening up to and including a Temperature Test.
  - a. Temperature scanners will be used to test all Attendees entering the Facility. Any Attendee with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will not be allowed into the Facility.
- iii. Participants will be escorted and should leave one (1) parking space (10') in between ALL Race Haulers. **[CONFINE]**

**c. TRANSACTIONS**

- i. There will be NO Cash or Check transactions at the Facility...ALL transactions must be by Credit or Debit Card.

**d. SOCIAL DISTANCING**

- i. Participants should practice Social Distancing (*6' separation per individual*) at ALL times at the event including any necessary one-on-one conversation. **[CONFINE]**
- ii. CDC Social-Distancing Guidelines:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

**e. GROUPS**

- i. Participants should not congregate in groups larger than six (6) and when/if doing so they should practice Social-Distancing and should wear cloth face covers. **[COVER-CONFINE]**

**f. PERSONAL HYGIENE**

- i. There will be hand-washing stations located throughout the Facility. Participants should wash hands with soap and water every 20-minutes throughout the day...Sanitizer should ONLY support hand washing, not take the place of. **[CLEAN]**
- ii. ALL Attendees will be provided a 1oz. Sanitizer bottle and World of Outlaws cloth face-covering. **[COVER]**
- iii. Participants should avoid touching their face. **[COVER-COVER]**
- iv. Participants should cover ALL coughs & sneezing. **[COVER]**
- v. If Participant feels symptoms at the event, please let an Official know immediately.
  - a. COVID-19 Symptoms includes Fever, Muscle Pain, Cough, Headache, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Sore Throat, Loss of Taste or Smell, Chills or Repeated Shaking with Chills.
- vi. CDC Hand-Washing & Hand Sanitizer Guidelines:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

**g. ACCESSIBLE AREAS**

- i. ALL Participants MUST stay in the Infield Area (*Zones 3, 4, 5 & 7*), specifically their designated pit area as much as possible, other than when on the track. **[CONFINE]**

- ii. There will be NO Participant access in the Public Grandstand Area.  
**[CONFINE]**

**h. SEATING**

- i. Participants should view all on-track action from the top of their respective Race Hauler. **[CONFINE]**

**i. CONCESSIONS**

- i. There will be NO Concessions at this event. We encourage you to bring a cooler with food & beverage...NO Glass...NO Alcohol.
- ii. Food and beverages should be consumed at respective Race Hauler.  
*(there will be no "Food Court" or seating area for groups)* **[CONFINE]**

**j. COMPETITION**

- i. World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series
- ii. \$10,000-to-Win
- iii. 24-car Starting Field
- iv. 30 Lap Feature

### **3. POST-EVENT PLAN**

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**a. EXIT**

- i. ALL Participants MUST EXIT Facility by 10:30pm.

**b. PAYOUT**

- i. ALL purse and Contingency Award payouts will be distributed following the event via Direct Deposit and/or Check. There will be NO payout distribution onsite.

**c. CLEANING**

- i. Participants are strongly recommended to use active disinfection of high-use surfaces through a wipe-down prior to leaving the Facility. **[CLEAN]**
- ii. It is highly recommended that Participants conduct additional disinfection upon returning to their homes, places of business or race shops. It is encouraged to employ a lockdown strategy for a period of 96 hours. **[CLEAN-CONFINE]**

**d. HEALTH**

- i. If an attendee feels any COVID-19 Symptoms within 72 hours of the completion of the event we ask you to contact the event organizer and see your primary doctor. **(CONFINE)**
- a. COVID-19 Symptoms include Fever, Muscle Pain, Cough, Headache, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Sore Throat, Loss of Taste or Smell, Chills or Repeated Shaking with Chills.

## **CDC GUIDLINES**

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**b. SUPPORT DOCUMENTS**

- i. COVID-19 Symptoms
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- ii. Community Mitigation Strategies
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>
- iii. Hand Washing & Hand Sanitizer Use
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>
- iv. Mass Gathering Guidelines
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-Events/mass-gatherings-ready-for-COVID-19.html>
- v. How to Protect Yourself & Others
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prEvent-getting-sick/prEvention.html>
- vi. Social Distancing Guidelines
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prEvent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>
- vii. Travel Guidelines
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-in-the-us.html>
- viii. Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV2 as Compared with SARS-CoV1
  - a. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMc2004973>
- ix. Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities

- a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- x. FDA Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
  - a. <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- xi. CDC Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/sick-with-2019-ncov-fact-sheet.pdf>
- xii. CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>
- xiii. CDC Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus
  - a. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>
- xiv. Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
  - a. <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>

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This document has been reviewed by and incorporates feedback from the following industry experts:

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