

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS AND LEGISLATION

COVID-19: Is Your Workplace 'Business Ready'?

To ensure that facilities are safe and compliant as the UK begins to ease out of the COVID-19 lockdown, SOCOTEC's range of testing, inspection and compliance services provide a complete solution to support and guide organisations through these challenging times.

As part of its comprehensive offering, SOCOTEC has developed its 'Business Ready' recovery programme, offering a series of support packages to provide organisations with the confidence and peace of mind that their staff can safely return to the workplace. These support packages are suitable for businesses of all sizes across a broad range of sectors, including non-essential retailers, who are permitted to open their doors to the public from Monday 15 June.

In the UK, the packages are split into three key areas - Secure, Assurance and Certification - each of which offers an increasing level of support and expertise to ensure organisations are adhering to relevant legislation and best safety practices to lower the risk of viral transmission in the workplace.

Secure

SOCOTEC's [Secure Package](#) comprises two hours of virtual training in the form of the COVID-19 Risk Assessment course. The training provides delegates with the information required to carry out a risk assessment that is tailored to their individual business requirements, outlining relevant areas of basic legislation and the importance of compliance, alongside key practical techniques that make up the risk assessment process. This is also accompanied by audit materials for self-completion once the training is complete.

Alternatively, organisations can opt for the Secure Plus Package, which features all of the above benefits, as well as a full verification service once the risk assessment has been completed, plus access to consultancy support for one month following the training.

Assurance

For an additional level of support, SOCOTEC's [Assurance Package](#) offers a complete audit of company premises in line with the latest government guidance and safety measures regarding COVID-19. Upon completion of this audit, a report with customised recommendations and any corrective actions to comply with COVID-19 guidelines will be issued. Once SOCOTEC has received evidence that the corrective actions have been implemented, businesses will then be provided with a certificate of assurance.

As part of the Assurance Plus Support Package, businesses are entitled to all of the benefits within the original Assurance package,

as well as SOCOTEC's new environmental swab testing service, which determines the presence of Coronavirus on surfaces across a wide range of workplace environments.

Certification

SOCOTEC's [Certification Package](#) provides organisations with the highest level of support, equipping them with the confidence that their organisation is adhering to all of the relevant legislation, safety measures and guidelines related to COVID-19. In addition to certification and training services, the Certification Package also guarantees communication with employee representative bodies and delivers information regarding safety and certification to the relevant stakeholders and customers.

TO DISCOVER MORE

If you are interested in any of the packages within the 'Business Ready' programme please contact SOCOTEC's Health and Safety team at H&S-Enquiries@socotec.com or on 0845 603 2112

If you are interested in any of the packages within the 'Business Ready' programme but the benefits do not match the exacting requirements of your organisation, SOCOTEC can tailor their contents to design a bespoke support package that suits your individual needs.

Virtual health and safety training

As well as the virtual COVID-19 Risk Assessment course offered within the 'Business Ready' Secure and Secure Plus Packages, SOCOTEC offers a vast array of virtual health and safety training courses on offer to suit your individual requirements, many of which have been adapted to this format while face-to-face and classroom-based learning is not possible.

For further information on SOCOTEC's virtual training courses, including how these can be tailored to your individual business requirements, visit www.socotecshop.com or get in touch with our Health & Safety Consultancy team. Below are some of our offerings:

- › [IOSH](#): A selection of IOSH courses can be tailored virtually, however, please note that the Working Safely and Managing Safely are already available as full e-learning qualifications
- › [NEBOSH](#): Both the NEBOSH National Diploma and General Certificate in Online Health and Safety are already available as online training
- › [CITB](#): SMSTS and SSSTS refresher courses (a minimum of two and a maximum of 10 delegates must be in attendance for these to run), Site Safety Plus Health and Safety Awareness course are available in virtual format. CITB announced on Monday 1 June that classroom-based training can recommence immediately under a risk-based approach. However, this can only take place on the trainer's site as opposed to hotels/other venues where training is usually hosted
- › [UKATA](#): SOCOTEC can provide Asbestos Awareness training in e-learning format, which contains the exact same content as that in the face-to-face course (with certification valid for 12 months)
- › [Pandemic Awareness](#) and [Coronavirus Training](#): Both of SOCOTEC's pandemic-focussed training courses are available as dedicated e-learning options

In addition to many of our existing health and safety courses being available for virtual delivery - such as [Fire Safety](#), [Manual Handling Principles](#) and [Work at Height](#) - SOCOTEC can provide single modules or carry out a full licence arrangement (comprising over 20 online modules) for larger companies for a one-off fee.