

CERTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC. COVID-19 / CORONAVIRUS SPECIALIZED SERVICES



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

CERTFIFED ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

Certified Environmental, Inc. (CEI) is a recognized leader in indoor air quality (IAQ) and industrial hygiene related services, assisting a variety of industrial, commercial, and residential clients. To assist our business partners, CEI has expanded its services to address SARS-CoV-2 otherwise known as COVID-19. These services include (1) sampling for presence / absence of COVID-19 on surfaces; and (2) Infection Control and Prevention Plan (ICPP) development.

BACKGROUND AND TRANSMISSION

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can spread from person-to-person. The main infection route is between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can contract COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes. Currently, transmission from surfaces is not thought to be the main way the virus can spread, however the CDC's April 13th update remarked: "COVID-19 is a new disease and we are still learning about how it spreads and the severity of illness it causes."



SAMPLING FOR COVID-19 AND INFECTION CONTROL AND PREVENTION PLAN (ICPP) DEVELOPMENT

SURFACE SAMPLING FOR COVID-19

SURFACE CONTAMINATION SAMPLING: Recent studies suggest that the SARS-CoV-2 virus may remain viable and infective on surfaces for hours to days, depending on the surface's material type (fabric, tile, steel, etc.). Thorough cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces are recommended by the CDC and believed to be essential in preventing the spread of infection. The presence or absence of the viral genetic material on environmental surfaces can now be directly tested with a new SARS-CoV-2 molecular-based test and used to demonstrate effectiveness of cleaning protocols. CEI has partnered with EMSL Analytical Services, Inc., located in Cinnaminson, NJ and can provide surface sampling and assessment.

The SARS-CoV-2 test is performed through by quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (qPCR) and provides data to meet the objectives of the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidance Document "Surface sampling of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) A practical 'how to' protocol for health care and public health professionals, namely: "to assess the extent and persistence of surface contamination of COVID-19".

ICPP DEVELOPMENT: CEI works directly with business to establish an effective ICPP specific to that organization and facility. A site visit is performed by a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) to assess the facility and tailor the plan to meet the needs of that business. Some key elements of the ICPP include:

- Social Distancing Modeling for the Facility (Static and Dynamic Spacing Recommendations)
- Education and Training (Frequency and Duration; Elements; and Competency Evaluations)
- Standard Precautions (Respiratory and Hand Hygiene; PPE; Cleaning and Disinfection of Devices and Surfaces)
- > Transmission Based Precautions (Customer / Visitor Precautions; Contact, Airborne, and Droplet Precautions)
- Appendices Listing of Commonly Touched Surfaces and Infection Prevention Checklist
- > Appendices List of Contact Persons & Roles / Responsibilities and Approved Disinfectants / Cleaners for Surfaces

Certified Environmental, Inc., (CEI) located in Mansfield, Ohio, has conducted a wide variety of indoor air quality studies and investigations to assess indoor environments for acceptable air quality, indoor environmental contaminants, chemical exposure and indoor environmental allergens. The challenges we are all facing as we continue to deal with this new invisible disease has taken a tremendous toll on our economy and way of life. Let CEI help ensure your facility and employees have a safe place to work. Please direct questions to CEI at (419) 884-2123 or visit our website at <u>certifiedenvironmental.net</u>.