



Coronavirus Response

OSHA and the Food and Drug Administration developed a checklist to help protect food industry workers during the pandemic.



Understanding Compliance with OSHA’s Respiratory Protection Standard During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a public health emergency that has dramatically increased demand for respirators, particularly N-95 filtering facepiece respirators (FFRs), as well as fit-testing supplies ordinarily used to ensure that respirators fit workers properly and provide the expected level of protection. Shortages (either intermittent or extended) of both FFRs and fit-testing supplies have posed tremendous challenges. In order to allow essential operations to continue, many employers have had to utilize contingency and crisis strategies that are ordinarily not compliant with OSHA’s Respiratory Protection standard. Examples of contingency and crisis strategies include: extended use of disposable FFRs, decontamination and reuse of disposable FFRs, and the use of foreign FFRs not approved by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).



strategies, OSHA has issued temporary enforcement guidance to its Compliance Safety and Health Officers (CSHOs). This guidance allows CSHOs to exercise enforcement discretion in cases involving workplace exposures and an employer that is unable to comply with certain provisions of the Respiratory Protection standard because of supply shortages and has thus found it necessary to implement contingency or crisis

COVID-19 Resources

- A new resource helps employers understand and comply with OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard during the pandemic.
- A poster is now available on seafood processing.

Get Printed Coronavirus Publications

Free printed copies of posters and guidance booklets on protecting workers from the coronavirus can be ordered from OSHA's publications page.





Emergency Preparedness

Employers should ensure that they have a plan to respond to a natural disaster or other emergencies in the workplace.

Small Business Improves Worker Safety

A construction contractor worked with the On-Site Consultation Program in California to reduce injury rates and costs.

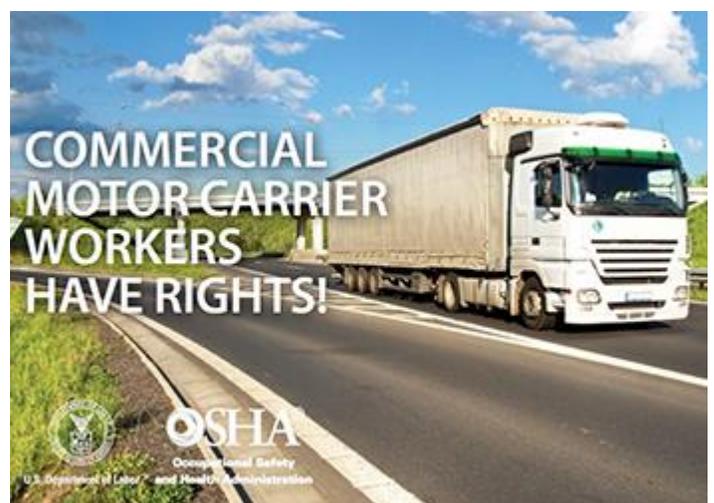


Alliances Promote Safety

- National Association of Landscape Professionals
- Latino Community Development Agency

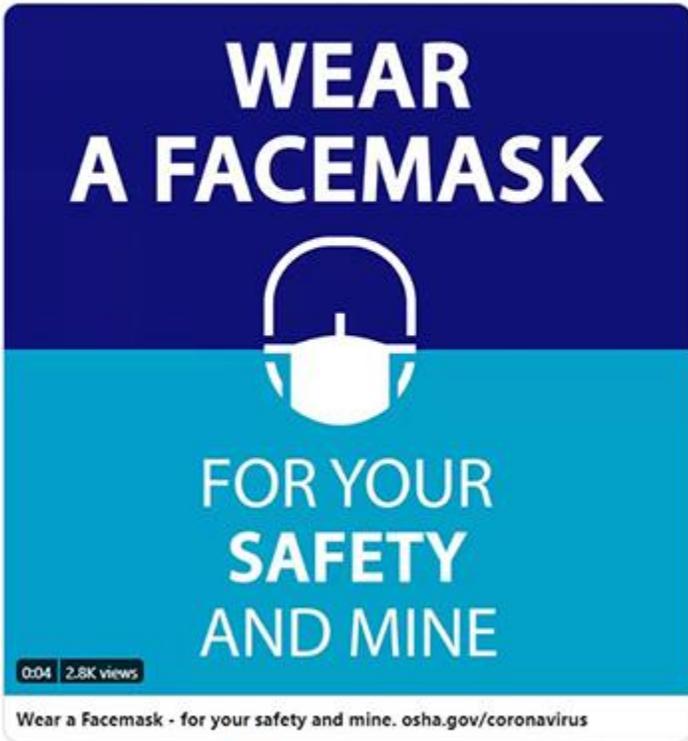
Whistleblower Protections

A motor carrier was ordered to reinstate an employee terminated for reporting safety concerns.





.@OSHA_DOL updated FAQs to address the misconception that masks and cloth face coverings may cause harm: [osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/...](https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/)



Social Media

Follow @OSHA_DOL on Twitter. For more safety and health resources and information, visit the U.S. Department of Labor's social media accounts:

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- Instagram

COVID-19 Q&A



Will employers have additional time to complete annual training requirements because of mandated social distancing and other restrictions enacted during the coronavirus pandemic?



OSHA issued interim guidance on using discretion in enforcement when employers make good faith efforts to comply with OSHA standards during the pandemic.



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