



NV5

COVID-19 (SARS CoV-2 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS)

MECHANICAL SYSTEMS READINESS

"**BUSINESS RE-OPEN**" orders have been issued to management teams across the country. The challenge is to protect employees from infectious disease transmission and ensure the air quality and office environment in your building are ready to welcome them back safely.

NV5 FACILITY RESTART SERVICES will assess your unique situation from health, human behavior, and engineering perspective so that your facilities can re-open and that your employees may safely return to work as quickly as possible while limiting liabilities for your management team.

We all have a role to play to control the spread of this disease. Let NV5 help your organization open its doors with confidence knowing health and safety protocols have been implemented to their fullest.

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NV5 MECHANICAL SYSTEMS READINESS EXPERTISE

2020 has brought with it some unusual and unexpected challenges, but also opportunities for improvement and progress. It has affected our personal lives tremendously and is altering the way we all do business; from ordering food and having it delivered through a car window to the increase in “working from home”. Businesses, government agencies, and other industries are having to rethink how they operate and what impact that has on the health and well-being of staff, customers, guests, and other vendors.

NV5 has put forward its extensive building engineering knowledge to assist our clients in their business restart programs, ranging from design for field hospitals, viral tracing assistance, air handling condition assessments, etc.

Our expertise has been utilized by government agencies and private businesses across the country and internationally to help provide a safe working environment while reducing overall energy costs.

NV5 has various types of assessments that we have successfully been providing to our clients throughout the pandemic. NV5 offers four services specifically designed to get your facilities re-opened and your workforce safely back in place as soon as possible, while limiting employee concerns and liabilities from potential lawsuits. These services can be implemented as a package or individually as your needs require.

One such case study that has been provided to a key client (with dozens of properties across the country), is an air handling assessment. To prepare for “return to business” our client expressed an interest in reviewing each air handling system that introduced outside air into the building. Each unit has been reviewed for responsiveness to the building management system, cleanliness, correct operation, correct type and the number of filters, and verification of the quantity (per design and maximum possible) of outside air. The client realized that a healthy air handling system necessitates a healthy building and healthy customers.

A list of recommended COVID-19 related services is detailed below.

SERVICE #1: HVAC/PLUMBING SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW

Our team of engineers will review your HVAC and plumbing systems so that ASHRAE Building Readiness guidelines are implemented, as necessary. We will coordinate efforts with our cleaning oversight team so that standing water is removed to limit exposure to Legionella bacteria or other pathogens prior to system restart in facilities that have been partially or fully shut down. We will also perform a mini-retro-commissioning on your building management system, and review facility airflow patterns and preventive maintenance procedures to optimize indoor air quality in accordance with best practices to reduce pathogen spread. Upon completion, we will provide an engineering report on all activities to help limit your liability.

SERVICE #2: FACILITY OSHA COMPLIANCE REVIEW

We will critically review your facility and personnel practices against the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) risk categories and hierarchy of controls to determine any changes required to make your facility/protocols compliant with the latest standards. A review of your physical areas, employee work arrangements, engineering systems, and administrative controls are included so that we can identify your areas of highest risk and suggest changes that will minimize exposure to pathogens for the safety of your staff, clients, and visitors.



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SERVICE #3: THIRD-PARTY OVERSIGHT OF CLEANING, DEVELOPMENT OF CLEANING PROTOCOLS, AND TRAINING OF STAFF

We will act as an independent third-party to develop or validate acceptable cleaning protocols and oversee the work of experienced, insured contractors so that they are sanitizing your facility areas in accordance with the best practices and current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), OSHA, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) guidelines. To maximize the removal of pathogens we make sure that the appropriate cleaning agents are used, and that effective dwell times are adhered to. We also set-up training for your cleaning staff and provide a paper trail of documentation to help limit liability.

SERVICE #4: CHANGE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

NV5 will address your human resource issues by helping to establish a baseline for the “new normal” way of working and to enable effective protocols that will bring workforces safely back to the facility. We will advise on necessary cultural changes and enhanced communication efforts required to keep employees engaged and to address their concerns. Finally, we monitor critical success factors to sustain workforce productivity.