

Bulletin – Covid 19



This bulletin outlines how liftⁱ service company employees will seek to ensure they are protecting themselves and others to minimise the risk of the spread of infection when attending at lifts in the current emergency.

This bulletin briefly explains measures that lift service provider personnel attending at lift sites will follow in line with the Government recommendations on social distancing.

The main points to consider under this Bulletin are:

Industry practices – general

Lift service provider companies are continuing to deliver on contractually agreed commitments for public and private sector clients while adhering to Government requirements/ recommendations.

Lift service provider companies are doing all they can to keep their workers in employment in the safest possible environment. The lift service provider industry will continue to follow all Government guidelines to ensure the safety of these employees and the general public whilst engaging in lift maintenance and installation works.

Lift service provider companies run ‘briefings’ to reinforce new safety guidelines.

Industry personnel practices

List service provider companies operate the following:

1. No hand-shake policy. Lift service provider companies have further embedded social distancing and hand washing into their daily routines including measures such as reducing congestion, requiring hand washing at entry and leaving sites, regular cleaning of all contact surfaces etc.
2. Single use protective gloves have been provided to all service engineers.
3. On-Screen customer signature capture has been temporarily suspended.
4. Scheduled visits to vulnerable customer sites e.g. hospitals or nursing homes, arranged in advance to discuss access and parking procedures with site management.

All further necessary practical measures will be taken so as to mitigate the risk of exposure to lift service provider personnel and client staff and may include such measures as:

5. Keeping the number of lift service provider company and client company personnel exposed or likely to be exposed as low as possible.
6. Designing work processes and engineering control measures (ie social distancing measures to be in place at all times) so as to avoid infection transfer.
7. Using both collective protection measures and individual protection measures where risk of exposure cannot be avoided by other means.

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8. Using hygiene measures compatible with the aim of preventing or reducing infection transfer (ie by maintaining social distancing, by not sharing tools, by thoroughly cleaning tools and instrumentation etc.).
9. Using appropriate signage to warn others to keep away from work locations at lifts or lift machine control rooms and other relevant warning signs.
10. Drawing up plans to deal with accidents involving personnel at lift workplaces and to deal with when personnel get ill.
11. Assessing and testing where (lift wells, machine control rooms, control panels etc.) necessary and technically possible, for the presence of potential sources of infection.
12. Deploying means for safe collection, storage and disposal of waste or replacement equipment (lift spare parts etc.), including the use of secure and identifiable containers, after maintenance or installation works where appropriate.
13. Make arrangements for the safe collection, storage and disposal of materials removed from a lift site.

For clarification or queries on action required, please contact your lift service provider.

HSE website: www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html

CIF website: <https://cif.ie/coronavirus/>

HSA website:

https://www.hsa.ie/eng/Topics/Biological_Agents/Biological_Agents_Introduction/Biological_Agents_Frequently_Asked_Questions/

ⁱ The word ‘lift’ in the context of this Bulletin shall mean all vertical lift and inclined and horizontal escalator transport system equipment.