The health and safety of ACEC/MO’s employees and members is at the forefront of our policies and guidelines, and as such, we are continuously addressing the coronavirus outbreak. There is an abundance of COVID-19 information on the ACEC (National) and ACEC/MO (state) websites - see links listed below. If you have any questions, please email Bruce Wylie or Dawn Hill.

COVID-19 RESOURCES:

- ACEC Coronavirus Resource Center
- ACEC/MO COVID-19 Resource Center
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
- Federal Guidance on COVID-19
- Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry Coronavirus Resources
- Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services
- COVID-19 Public Awareness Campaign
- Small Business Administration: Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources
- USDA Rural Development COVID-19

Missouri Launches Three New Resources to Aid COVID-19 Economic Recovery

Governor Mike Parson announced yesterday new resources as part of the Show Me Strong Recovery Plan, including the Show Me Strong Pledge, Business Recovery Lab, and $15 million in grant funding to help rebuild Missouri’s tourism industry. “Missourians are counting on us to ensure a safe and successful reopening of our state,” Governor Parson said. “These resources will help us rebuild Missouri’s tourism industry and continue to prioritize the health and safety of our citizens, businesses, and communities.”
**Destination Marketing Organization Grant Program**
Through this program, $15 million in CARES Act funding will be designated for destination marketing organizations (DMOs), entities that promote Missouri as a great place to visit. The funds will be administered by the Missouri Division of Tourism and will grant eligible DMOs funding for recovery efforts such as payroll relief, reimbursement for necessary safety equipment, and the initiation of marketing campaigns with messaging focused on safe travel. Eligible DMOs must have participated in the Division’s Cooperative Marketing Program in FY19, FY20, or both. This program is part of a focused effort to support Missouri’s tourism industry. When the COVID-19 health emergency hit Missouri, the tourism and hospitality industry nearly shut down completely. This funding will help our tourism industry make our state’s many attractions and activities safer and reinforce messaging to encourage visitors to come to Missouri and safely enjoy all there is to see and do here. For more information, visit [showmestrong.mo.gov](http://showmestrong.mo.gov).

**Missouri Recovery Lab**
The Missouri Recovery Lab is a new online platform designed to assist businesses as they work to become more resilient and adapt to COVID-19 disruptions. It features industry-specific best practices, instructional videos, and a resource directory which can be used by businesses, communities, or citizens in search of financial assistance, health and safety information, job placement, and more. It also features a peer-to-peer forum where business leaders can ask questions of the community and share best practices. To access the Missouri Recovery Lab, visit [showmestrong.mo.gov/mo-recovery-lab](http://showmestrong.mo.gov/mo-recovery-lab).

**The Show Me Strong Pledge**
Businesses and citizens across Missouri are encouraged to show their commitment to minimizing the spread of COVID-19 by taking the Show Me Strong Pledge. This pledge is voluntary and honor-based, and it recommends following basic CDC guidance for businesses and citizens. Best practices that pledge takers will agree to include encouraging physical distancing, cleaning and sanitation, wearing a face mask or face covering when social distancing isn’t possible, and proper handwashing. Upon taking the pledge, businesses will receive a certificate to display as a demonstration of their commitment. Individuals can show their support by adding the Show Me Pledge frame to their social media profile. To learn more and take the pledge, visit [showmestrong.mo.gov/pledge](http://showmestrong.mo.gov/pledge).

---

**MoDOT / Industry COVID-19 Meeting Update**
The Missouri Department of Transportation held a COVID-19 Industry Meeting on July 15, 2020. Attendees included were from ACEC, ACPA, AGC, KC Heavy Constructors, MAPA, MLPA, MoDOT and SITE. They discussed the following:

- Action Items from July 1 Meeting (discussion of June receipts)
- Shared Work Program
- Contract Status
- Traffic Data
- Director’s Update
- Roundtable Discussion.

To see the complete minutes from the meeting, click on the link below or go to the [ACEC/MO COVID-19 Resource Center](http://ACEC/MO COVID-19 Resource Center). The next meeting is scheduled for July 30, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

- [Changes in Traffic Due to COVID-19 Compared to 2019 (Updated 7-13-20)](http://Changes in Traffic Due to COVID-19 Compared to 2019 (Updated 7-13-20))
Shaping a Global Response to COVID-19  
by GHD

GHD leaders discussed the company’s response to COVID-19 and the urgency to be more innovative than ever before in the post-pandemic recovery in a webinar hosted by the New Colombo Plan and Monash University. In opening the webinar, Steve Robinson AO, Australian Ambassador to the Philippines, acknowledged GHD’s support for the New Colombo Plan, a flagship Australian Government program that provides university students with opportunities to live, study and work in the Indo-Pacific region. The webinar was chaired by Joel Kennaway, a New Colombo Plan scholar who completed an internship with GHD in the Philippines. Rob Knott, GHD’s Chairman, spoke of the company’s 92 years of history that has seen GHD continue to deliver lasting community benefit through global crises like the Great Depression and the Second World War.

Ian Fraser, Executive General Manager – Asia Pacific, said that despite radically different conditions in each country, regular communications from leaders and ‘town hall’ events have united GHD’s employees across cultures. [...] 

To see the full article or to watch the webinar, click here.

The Future of Construction Webinar

Like every profession, the construction industry was upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. In many places, construction halted all together. In others, the practices of temperature monitoring, PPE usage and social distancing were adopted as work continued. New technologies, like virtual reality and video services, found new prominence in the construction process.

So, what does this mean for the future of construction? Should estimates include costs for PPE? Will social distancing decrease labor productivity? And will new technology solutions become a mainstay in the industry? The Engineering News Record is hosting this free webinar on August 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM. Items you'll learn include:

- How construction estimates can be built to account for changes in labor and equipment due to COVID-19.
- What impacts the use of social distancing could have on construction project timelines.
- Where new technologies are enabling innovation in the construction process to combat productivity loss, improve health and safety practices and increase convenience.
- How technologies may continue to evolve in the future to create a more streamlined construction process.

To register for the free webinar, click here. Can't attend live? Register to view the webinar on-demand!

The Safe Return to Work Digital Solution

by Black & Veatch

As organizations look to effectively manage and maintain the health and safety of individuals in a COVID-19 world, we’re excited to unveil our latest video demonstrating COVOPORATE, a revolutionary solution that gets you back to work safely and productively in this “new normal.”
COVOPERATE is an affordable, flexible, scalable and secure cloud-based application that tracks and manages individuals’ critical health data. This solution is powered by Field2Base, and together, we’re supporting our communities with innovative solutions to help manage these challenging times.

Watch the below video or click here to learn more about the many applications for COVOPERATE, and how it can help your business successfully manage this crisis.

The Post-Pandemic Office: Where Do We Go from Here?
by Jay Wratten, Smart+Connected building strategist, WSP

Over this series, we’ve asked many questions about how the office will look and function after Covid-19. And whether we’re talking about design, air quality, vertical transportation, technology, it’s clear that we don’t yet have the answers. In the past we’ve been able to reference standards that have been written and published, so as designers, we often act as translators for an established body of research. But in this case, that body of research is still to emerge.

This raises profound questions for the design community about how we manage uncertainty in the strange new world that we are now operating in. Design and construction is a risk-averse industry in which many things are codified or accepted as best practice. Our response to design post-Covid-19 is not going to look like that. So how do we provide advice to our clients knowing that we don’t know the answer for sure? How do we apply nascent ideas in a prudent way, without overreacting or over-promising? The way we manage our clients’ expectations will be critical because as much as we want to do the right thing, we don’t want to give a false sense of security or claim that a building is quote-unquote “safe”.

We do know that some building designs are emerging as inherently more resilient than others. Perhaps they’re in better condition, or they’ve got better indoor air quality or better access to light so people stay healthier in general, or they are only three […]

To read the full WSP article, click here.

2020 IgniteX COVID-19 Response Accelerator Virtual Showcase

Black & Veatch is providing grants and in-kind services to companies developing solutions that reduce the severity of the coronavirus outbreak. Join them for a webinar to hear from some of these companies as they present their technologies and service offerings aimed at saving lives, helping communities cope with the effects of the virus, and protecting the economy. The webinar will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 from 2:00-3:30 PM.

During the event, you will hear brief pitches from many of the companies participating in our accelerator program, as well as an overview of collaboration and go-to-market opportunities being pursued jointly with Black & Veatch. Solutions presented during the showcase range from Health Screening and Environmental Sensing to Disinfection and Tracking & Tracing. The companies presenting include:
Continuity of Command & Control for Essential Workers in a Confined Space

In an episode of 'The New Normal' Conversations with Sean Kennedy, Ross & Baruzzini | MACRO Director of Business Development and Alesia Cain, Executive Consultant, Ross & Baruzzini Mobility Systems & Communications division, they discuss continuity of command and control for essential workers.

To see the video of this Zoom meeting that was recorded on July 8th, click here.

7 Changes Affecting Government Relations During the Pandemic
by Associations Now

A recent report from the Public Affairs Council found that the pandemic is changing the way advocacy is done. With more organizations saying advocacy is critical now, we need to focus on virtual engagement and standing out from the crowd. Due to the uncertainty caused by the pandemic and the role government can play in providing relief, most organizations feel their government relations department will be critical in helping them managing political risk, according to a May 2020 report [pdf] from the Public Affairs Council (PAC).

However, the pandemic changed the way GR professionals do business. If we want to manage political risk well moving forward, experts have noted seven changes that we'll need to keep up with to make the most of our advocacy efforts.

- More member engagement.
- More interactions.
- Virtual interaction management.
- Standing out is important.
- Only COVID-19 matters.
- Budgets are important.
- Old ways are transitioning.

To read the full article from Associations Now, click here.
Covering Coronavirus: Risk Management & Employee Benefits Considerations

The global COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic remains both dynamic and fluid. We continue to see unprecedented disruptions at home and abroad. In this issue, we take a focused look at the below topics. To see the complete issue, click here.

1. U.S. DOL Acts to Help American Workers and Employers
2. FMCSA Notice on Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Compliance
3. Business Interruption Litigation Update
4. Liability Immunity Measures Move Forward
5. Coronavirus Testing Raises Questions
6. Presumptive Compensability Legislation Update
7. Coronavirus-Related Claims Rise

Visit epicbrokers.com/coronavirus to catch up on all our coverage.

ACEC Guide to Returning to the Office and the Job Site

The economy is opening back up - make sure your firm is prepared to protect its greatest resource - its employees - with the ACEC Guide to Returning to the Office and the Job Site. Click here or on the graphic below to download your copy of the guide.