

COVID-19 PLANT RESTART CHECKLIST - FOR LIGHT MANUFACTURING & RETAIL OPERATIONS -

In light of the COVID-19 virus, we would like share ideas to safely restart your facility after an extended shutdown. Our overall goal is to reduce the potential for employee and customer injuries, equipment breakdowns, maintenance issues, fires or other unexpected events. Your local jurisdictions will alert you when it is possible to restart your operations.

Please note that this list covers the basics and is not all inclusive for your unique operations. This document also anticipates that your plant did a proper facility shutdown. Inspections of stored chemicals, flammable liquid containers and process lines should be done prior to startup. Equipment manufacturers and suppliers have specific restart procedures for equipment that has been shut down for extended periods of time. These should be in listed the operations manuals.

If your company was not shut down in a planned manner, please consult with the equipment manufacturers for the proper restart procedures.

Please review the following:

- Housekeeping
- Restarting utilities
- Touring the building and grounds to identify new hazards or trip and fall exposures
- Evaluation of warehoused goods & stock
- Checking for fire hazards, theft or other damages
- Communication with employees on restart planning tasks
- Restarting equipment and computers in a controlled manner

One last housekeeping sweep should be done before the facility reopens. It is critical to remove rubbish, sawdust and scrap from inside the building and under or around the machines that might have been missed before the shutdown. The common areas including the parking lot, sidewalks and building interiors that the customers will frequent should be inspected for trip and fall hazards from stock that might have be moved or shifted during the shutdown. Flammable and combustible liquids containers and storage areas should be checked for leaks or other damage. Don't forget one final check in the employee break rooms, bathrooms and locker rooms to make sure they are clean and ready for use!

Power should be gradually turned on to your facility. An employee should be monitoring the areas that the power is turned back on to identify any problems with the electrical systems, production equipment and lighting. This will allow you to observe any electrical issues and greatly reduces the potential for electrical fire or equipment damage. Employees returning to the workstations, offices and retail check out areas should be inspecting the immediate area for damages and monitor equipment as it is restarted.

Outside and around the buildings please unlock any external storage tanks and other vital areas for the production efforts and the opening of the retail areas. Survey the common areas for any trip and fall hazards and remedy the situation. Inspect and start any mobile equipment and vehicles to see that they are operating properly.

The police, fire department, utilities and the alarm company should be contacted to alert them of your restart date. Provide them with updated lists of whom the emergency contacts are for your company.

Many of your employees will be returning from extended periods away from work or were working at home. Please alert them to the restart plans and any changes in the operations or staffing at your company.

The following is a sample checklist to help in your reopening activities. It is our goal that this will help your company efficiently restart your business and help reduce the possibility of an accident or loss. If you have additional questions or concerns, Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Loss Control Department can assist you.



PLM is committed to your business's safety. Use this checklist to help you efficiently reopen your business and help reduce the possibility of a loss during the restart process.

HOUSEKEEPING & SITE SAFETY:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Is "No Smoking" strictly enforced?			
2. Have combustible and flammable waste materials been removed and disposed of safely outside the building?			
3. Have in-process materials been properly staged at the production lines and other production equipment?			
4. Have areas under machines, processes, motors and bearings been cleaned of dust and debris?			
5. Have flammable residues been removed from hoods, spray booths, ducts, ovens, floors, etc.?			
6. Have flammables and combustibles liquids, safety containers, flammable storage cabinets and flammable storage rooms been inspected?			
7. Have bonding and grounding been checked?			
8. Are passageways free and clear?			
9. Have retail displays and signage been updated for the site reopening?			
10. Is there an 18" clear space between sprinklers and structural members and storage? (Pay attention in the storage areas.)			
11. Are fire doors unblocked and operating freely?			
12. Has dust accumulation been removed from rafters, overhead piping, machinery, motors, breaker panels, etc.?			
13. Has the breakroom refrigerator been cleaned out of food items and small electric appliances inspected?			
14. Have drains and sinks been inspected to make sure the P traps are filled with water to reduce the potential for sewer gas entering the building?			
15. Check and clean any vermin traps.			
16. Have inspections and cleaning been completed for common areas, parking lot, sidewalks, and retail areas for trip and fall hazards?			
17. Are inspections completed for retail stock and shelving for unsteady or shifted materials that could fall and injure customers or employees?			
18. Are emergency exits unlocked and passageways unobstructed?			

UTILITIES, ELECTRICAL POWER & EQUIPMENT:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Are security and emergency lights in service?			
2. Are lights clean and clear of combustible materials?			
3. Have temporary wiring and extension cords been removed?			
4. Have circuits at main switchboard or electrical panels been inspected?			
5. Have disconnected circuits been reconnected?			
6. Locked outs removed after inspections?			
7. Is power available for:			
Alarm systems?			
Computers & Servers?			
Fire pump(s)?			
Emergency elevator(s)?			
Emergency and security cameras & lighting?			
Dry pipe valve air supply?			
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8. Have small chargers, transformer(s) been inspected before use?			
9. Have small electrical items at desks and workstations been inspected before use?			
10. Have dirt and grease been cleaned from equipment?			
11. Are materials stored at least 3 feet from electrical panels and transformers?			
HYDRAULIC POWER EQUIPMENT:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Has oil been checked or replaced in the unit(s)?			
2. Are hydraulic units clean and free of oil leaks on and under the machines?			
3. Is hydraulic oil stored in a safe place and undamaged?			
4. Have the gauges been checked to see that they work properly?			
5. Have hydraulic and pneumatic hoses and fittings been inspected for damage or leaks?			
BOILERS, STEAM POWER, HEATING & COOLING:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Is the crew experienced in "lighting off" the equipment to restart the units?			

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2. Is sufficient heat maintained and monitored for:) (
Building(s)?) [
Fire pump house(s)?) [
Dry pipe valve house(s)?) [

BOILERS, STEAM POWER, HEATING & COOLING (CONT.):	YES	NO	COMMENTS
3. Is sufficient heat available to prevent the freezing of automatic sprinkler systems?			
4. Are steam controls and "lift" relief valves in good operating condition and tested regularly?			
5. Is there an emergency water feed for boiler(s)?			
6. Is there adequate water and water treatment chemicals for the equipment?			
7. For the restarting of wood fired boilers, have screw augers or conveyors been inspected and cleaned out prior to the startup?			
8. Have the drip points been drained of condensation, including air receiver tanks?			
9. Have the air filters been inspected and replaced on HVAC equipment?			
10. Is there any mold or moisture damage in or around air handling equipment?			
11. Have the condensate drains and pipes been inspected for blockage or leaks?			
FLAMMABLE GAS & EQUIPMENT:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Have the following been unlocked and checked:			
Individual burner valves and the main valve for heating equipment?			
Main valves outside or at meters, if possible?			
Power to outside storage tanks and pumps?			
2. Are cylinders at manifolds properly connected?			
3. Have welding gas cylinders had the regulators and hoses properly reattached?			
4. Have portable cylinders in main building(s) been returned and secured in a safe manner?			
5. Are retail propane storage racks locked and cylinders checked for leaks?			
FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS AND EQUIPMENT:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Have the valves been reopened and inspected?			
2. Have discharge valves on butane or propane storage tanks been inspected?			
3. Have pumps supplying fuel oil been tested and monitored?			
4. Have liquids been safely returned to dip tanks, cleaning tanks, mixing tanks, etc.?			
5. Have all unused liquids been relocated to safe storage areas?			
6. Have liquids that have been moved to production been stored in proper safety containers, with covers sealed tightly to prevent vapors from leaking, and consist of only a day's supply?			
7. Have grounding or bonding wires and connections been checked?			

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- 8. Have exhaust systems been inspected and tested for proper operations?
- 9. Have pumps and feed lines been inspected for proper operations?

SECURITY & PROPERTY PROTECTION:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Has the police department been notified of the opening?			
2. Are there adequate, operating phone(s) available?			
3. Are emergency numbers at each phone?			
4. Are all buildings and fences secured and locked as needed?			
5. Is security lighting provided and maintained inside and outside / of building(s)?			
6. Have security camera systems been checked that video recording is operating properly?			
7. Have you taken digital pictures of the interior, exterior of the building and grounds for recordkeeping?			
8. Have steps been taken to clear debris from the roof, gutters and drains to prevent water, snow and ice buildup?			
9. Have you surveyed pipes and process lines for any damage from freezing before refilling or pressurizing them?			
10. Have actions been taken to remove items that prevent interior or exterior pipes freezing? This includes removing insulation, antifreeze and heat tape from the pipes.			
FIRE PROTECTION:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
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MOBILE EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES (CONT.):	YES	NO	COMMENTS
4. Have you trained your employees to follow manufacturer's recommendations for electric forklift battery charging stations and electrolyte refilling? Certain forklift batteries create hazardous and explosive gases from extended charging or overcharging of the batteries. Battery fluid levels should be checked and filled following proper safety procedures.			
5. Have ignition keys been secured?			
6. Are items stored in plain view of the street and near security lighting?			
7. Have high dollar items been removed from plain view in your vehicles and equipment to reduce theft?			
8. Has all mobile equipment been inspected by the equipment operators before use and needed repairs made?			
SPECIAL ACTIONS FOR EQUIPMENT:	YES	NO	COMMENTS
1. Have measures to protect equipment requiring special restart procedures been provided?			
2. Has maintenance and/or operators conducted a final inspection, greasing, lubrication and fluid level checks of moving components to help prevent damage of motors, drive shafts or bearings?			
3. Do any employees need refresher training for equipment, processes, safety activities or machine operations?			
4. Are there enough supplies of Personal Protective Equipment necessary to operate the facilities?			

* The information and suggestions contained in this guideline have been developed from sources believed to be reliable. PLM Loss Control Representatives are available to assist you in your efforts to develop an effective restart program. However, PLM accepts no legal responsibility for the correctness or completeness of this material or its application to specific factual situations or for the ultimate effectiveness of a restart program developed based upon the material presented in this guideline. Please consult your local municipality for specific reopening guidelines.