



MANAGING JOBSITE RISK IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

BY GREG SASSI | GILBANE BUILDING COMPANY + STEVEN J. SMITH | KASTLE SYSTEMS

As our local and national leaders announced closures in early March, many of us we're asking the same questions: "How bad is this going to be?"; "How long will it last?"; "What do I need to do differently to make my project safe and secure during the pandemic?"; "Will construction sites ultimately shut down?" Within weeks it was apparent construction would be materially affected and contractors were left scrambling to develop and implement new strategies to mitigate risk and restore safe working environments.

Gilbane's approach to construction site security begins with a risk assessment to establish objectives for the security planning process. It is imperative to select appropriate security measures to mitigate the risk at each project site since each location poses unique challenges and risks. The goal is to establish measures that will keep our employees and the project safe.

Site security measures are layered. The first layer is an effective perimeter fence. Usually, 8 feet in height, while minimizing gaps between sections/poles and other openings, with clear zones on both sides and top and/or bottom guards. The proper fence is a deterrent and a delay method. Signage, another deterrent, is essential along the fence, providing a warning to potential intruders of the consequences. All signs should be bi-lingual. Gates should be robust and locked when not in use. Turnstiles for personnel access are a preferred option for specific project types and geographies.

Lighting is interconnected with many other security measures, and it is also a deterrent. Crime is less likely to occur in a place

where the criminal can be seen. But there is more to lighting than just brilliance. It's essential to assess temperature/color, uniformity, placement, fixtures, compatibility with security cameras, compliance with local requirements, and more.

Another security challenge faced in construction is tower cranes. Urban climbers, photographers, and many others are lured to cranes for thrill and notoriety. Although thrill seekers have little regard for their safety, Gilbane has established specific safety and security measures to prevent site and crane access. Early detection is an effective tool which provides a faster response and a safer outcome and is an important element needed to detect an intruder when they climb the perimeter fence

Gilbane's plan for tower cranes includes signage on the perimeter fence, additional fencing (and lights) around the base of the crane, and motion activated cameras that are monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Kastle Systems, a nationally recognized analytical detection system, is Gilbane's preferred partner for our site and crane security. Kastle's expertise and technology has been beneficial in enhancing Gilbane's site safety and security on our projects across the United States.

As the construction industry faces its latest challenge with COVID-19, Kastle Systems and its innovation will remain a critical resource for Gilbane, to maintain unparalleled site safety and security for the benefit of our clients, trade contractor partners and the surrounding community.



Kastle's innovative technology helps contractors better secure their sites and assists in mitigating the inherent risk associated with a construction sites that may experience extended periods of shuttering the project during the Covid-19 crisis. The solution is known as VideoGuarding and uses cameras equipped with an artificial intelligence (AI) layer that transforms a camera into a proactive security solution. When the technology deployed is wrapped with a services layer from a Security Operations Center, a powerful means to detect, deter, and dispatch on vandals and trespassers is created.

VideoGuarding, as its name would imply, essentially replaces the function of a security guard but does it much more effectively and economically. "Smart Cameras" are always watching and survey the camera view for the presence of trespassers or moving vehicles. Once the smart camera identifies a threat, video from the camera is streamed real time to a 24 x 7 staffed operations center. The remote officer validates the threat and can apply live audio talk-down via IP-based speakers strategically placed around the jobsite. The audio talk-down has proven immensely effective in running intruders off jobsites before they can do harm to themselves or the project. Additionally, the remote officer can notify key holders and dispatch local authorities to the site.

According to Smith, Kastle routinely runs trespassers off of jobsites with live audio talk-down. In addition, Kastle's 24 x 7 US-based operations center has proven exceptionally effective at quickly reacting to threats and apprehending those that aren't deterred by notifying local authorities of nefarious events in progress. Kastle Systems has a 48-year history of providing electronic security solutions and is the nation's leader in VideoGuarding with offices and jobsites secured across the US. More information can be found at (<https://www.kastle.com/industries/construction-sites/>).

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Suggested Response Protocols Flow Chart for COVID-19 Exposures



WHAT TO DO IF A WORKER HAD CONTACT WITH A CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE?

SCENARIO A:

No Close Contact and the worker is asymptomatic. For example: If working on the same floor but have never been in contact with each other.

No further action is necessary.

SCENARIO B:

Close Contact (within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes without facial coverings). For example: If a spouse, caregiver, or close coworker is confirmed.

Worker is sent home. Supervisor and point-of-contact/Pandemic Safety Officer should be notified. Anyone asked to leave should NOT return to work until:

- at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**,
- at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **AND**,
- other symptoms have improved.

If worker develops no symptoms, they stay out of work for 10 days, the last 3 of which they must be symptom free.

If worker develops symptoms, he/she should seek medical attention and should remain away from work for 14 days.

Worker may return after 14 days of self-quarantine, if he/she is:

- symptom free for 72 hours before return, with no medications.

If diagnosed/confirmed positive by a health care provider, he/she should follow CDC guidelines for self-isolation and return to work when directed to do so by their health care provider.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

WHAT TO DO IF A WORKER IS SICK?

SCENARIO A:

Worker is sick, but symptoms exhibited are not consistent with COVID-19.

Worker follows protocols consistent with company policy sick leave.

SCENARIO B:

Worker is exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Contact on site COVID-19 point-of-contact/Pandemic Safety Officer

Follow established communications plan to notify workforce

Worker is sent home. Supervisor is notified. He/she seeks medical attention; and if deemed necessary, is tested for COVID-19. Worker should make employer aware of diagnosis and follow direction of health care provider.

Worker **IS** DIAGNOSED/
CONFIRMED with COVID-19.

Worker:

- Stays home, self-isolates
- Seeks medical attention
- Remains out of work until:
 - » at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**,
 - » at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **AND**,
 - » other symptoms have improved.
- Employer may require clearance from a healthcare provider to return to work.

Worker is **NOT** diagnosed with COVID-19. Worker should follow direction of healthcare provider and CDC in order to return to work.

A negative COVID-19 test is not currently a definitive indication of non-infection.

Worker must remain at home until:

- at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**,
- at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **AND**,
- other symptoms have improved.

- Follow established communications plan to notify workforce.
- Investigate, contact trace, and establish if any other employees were in close contact with sick person and may need to self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Clean and disinfect the area(s).
- Identify corrective actions, if any, that can be taken for the future.

Learn more about COVID-19

Toolbox Talks | Job Site Protocols

Toolbox Talks | COVID-19 Information