

COVID-19 SURFACE HYGIENE TESTING SERVICE

Never before has health, safety and wellbeing been so vital to every aspect of our lives. Intertek Protek is the world's first health, safety and wellbeing assurance programme for people, workplaces and public spaces. In a dynamic environment, the Protek programme provides support across all sectors, from manufacturing to retail sites to public places.

As part of Protek, Intertek has launched a new testing service to identify if COVID-19 is present on surfaces in your premises - an essential part of hygiene and safety monitoring for any employer or public venture.

COVID-19 virus transmission

COVID-19 is the common name for SARS-CoV-2. In addition to being highly contagious between humans, it can also be spread from contaminated surfaces through everyday human activity or airborne droplets in building ventilation systems. The virus can remain airborne for up to three hours and survive for several days on some surfaces.* As employers across the UK prepare for safely enabling businesses and customers back into their facilities, stringent hygiene standards will become key strategies to address this risk and reassure colleagues and customers alike.

Surface Hygiene Testing Service

Intertek's Surface Hygiene Testing has been developed to help in the prevention and monitoring of COVID-19 infection. Environmental monitoring of key areas can provide a proactive approach to reducing the risk of spreading the virus and provide reassurance to your employees or customers. By testing environmental surfaces, such as door handles, PIN pads, desks, computers, phones, etc, facilities can monitor whether anyone is likely to be infected and take management action such as isolating areas to allow further cleaning.

- Surface hygiene testing can be performed by Intertek experts at customer sites by taking swabs of specific surface areas, or through customers pre-ordering these and following instructions to take the swabs themselves
- Swabs are transported to the Intertek laboratory where tests are carried out using a method of procedure called PCR Polymerase chain reaction

This test will identify if SARS-CoV-2 is present on the swabbed surfaces and enable customers to take action quickly to protect the safety and hygiene of their premises.

A safe and convenient experience with fast results

Once the samples are taken by Intertek experts on the customer site, adhering to stringent health and safety policy, the swabs will be securely packaged and labelled and transported to the laboratory. This test will identify if SARS-CoV-2 is present on the swabbed surfaces and enable customers to take action quickly to protect the safety and hygiene of their premises for employees and customers.

The swabs are processed within several hours of receipt, allowing the final results to be reported within 5 days of receipt. For more urgent samples, results can be available within 48 hours.

Solutions for a changing world

Based on Intertek's unique approach to total quality, our Protek suite of operational solutions provides your employees and customers with the confidence that their health, safety and wellbeing is your priority. Contact our experts today to discuss how Intertek Protek can support the health, safety and wellbeing of everyone in your organisation.

* Source: The New England Journal of Medicine (17 March 2020).



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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