

TRANSITIONING BACK TO WORK & COVID-19

As workplaces around the country begin to open up, employees are expressing valid concerns regarding their health and safety. Employers also have concerns regarding the safety of their staff, and the impact of a positive COVID-19 test on their business continuity. Governments and international organizations, such as the WHO and ASHRAE, have issued guidance on how to best control the spread of COVID-19. As the pandemic continues to unfold, this guidance continues to evolve. We actively review all new COVID-19 infection control guidelines as they relate to building systems in order to be in the best position to advise you of the current knowledge base. As such, The HIDI Group is ready to help answer your COVID-19 questions, and to assist you in operating your buildings to align with industry best practices.

For example, there is an active debate amongst researchers whether COVID-19 is transmitted purely through large droplets and consequent ingestion or surface contact, or whether transmission through airborne pathways is also a possible vector. Best practices regarding HVAC design and operation currently leans towards providing safeguards against a potential airborne virus, while stopping short of requiring full airborne infection-control measures. This can be confusing, and communicating any infection control measures to building occupants requires a careful review of current guidelines and thoughtful messaging. We can help you with both of these items.



THE HIDI GROUP CAN:

- Help you reassure your tenants that you are actively pursuing best practices for infection control, so that they are confident and comfortable returning to work in your building,
- Work with your controls, balancing and service contractors to reduce the risk of unintended consequences,
- Set your building up for success under infection-control operation, and
- Quantify the impacts of infection control ventilation on your overall building operation and utility consumption.

The HIDI Group's Commissioning team (HRCx) has been on site to provide clients with peace of mind across multiple sectors, including the commissioning of new Pandemic Response Units at hospitals [<https://globalnews.ca/news/6758358/pandemic-response-unit-joseph-brant-hospital-coronavirus/>] The expertise gained in commissioning these vital facilities can be applied to commercial office, institutional, educational, hospitality, retail and residential sectors as well. Together with HIDI's design team, we are able to provide a complete and individualized engineering solution for your building.



Drawing on 45 years of experience across all facets of building design and operation, including Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing, Security, Risk, Communications, Audio Visual, Lighting Design, Commissioning and Energy Services, our team of professionals are here to assist you. We would be happy to connect with you and help you find the best solution for your building and tenant needs.

THE HIDI GROUP IS HERE TO HELP REACH OUT TO ONE OF OUR MECHANICAL PROFESSIONALS



Alex Crandall
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