

COVID-19: **risk assessment considerations
for mobile workers
(electronic, fire and security companies)**

1. Introduction

This guidance has been put together in an effort to assist electronic fire & security companies during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the UK in managing the risk of those mobile workers who have to travel to different sites to carry out their work. This guidance should be used in conjunction with the Government advice on staying 'COVID Secure' in the workplace. The guidance assumes that a risk assessment has already been carried out as regards whether or not the service that is being provided is necessary, i.e. can it be done remotely?

The considerations outlined in this document are additional considerations over and above what would normally be required of your existing processes/procedures.

2. Useful COVID-19 Government guidance

The following government web site provides guidance on helping employers, employees and the self-employed understand how to work safely during the coronavirus pandemic.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

The following HSE web site provides guidance on the latest COVID-19 guidance across the UK (including Scotland, Wales & N Ireland):

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm>

The BSIA accepts no liability for the information contained in this document and no action should be taken in reliance on it without specific professional advice. Your attention is drawn to the information provided by HM Government on these matters.

3. The mobile worker

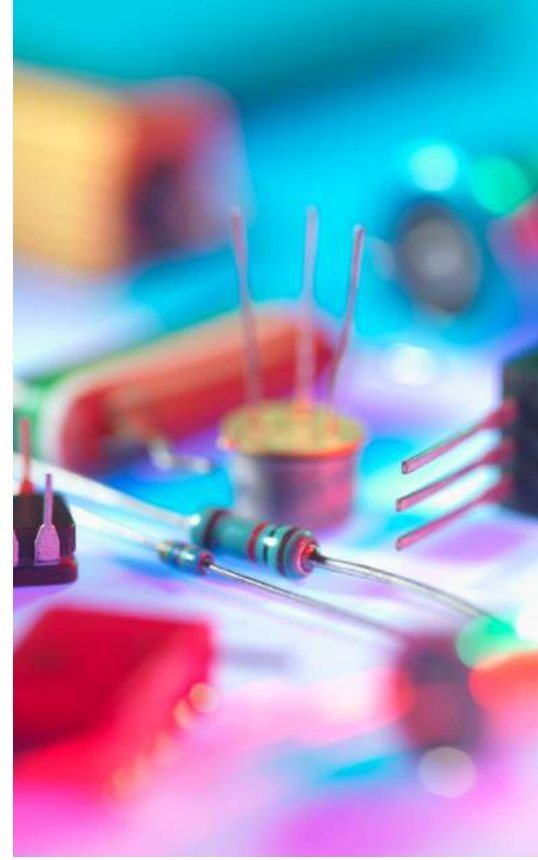
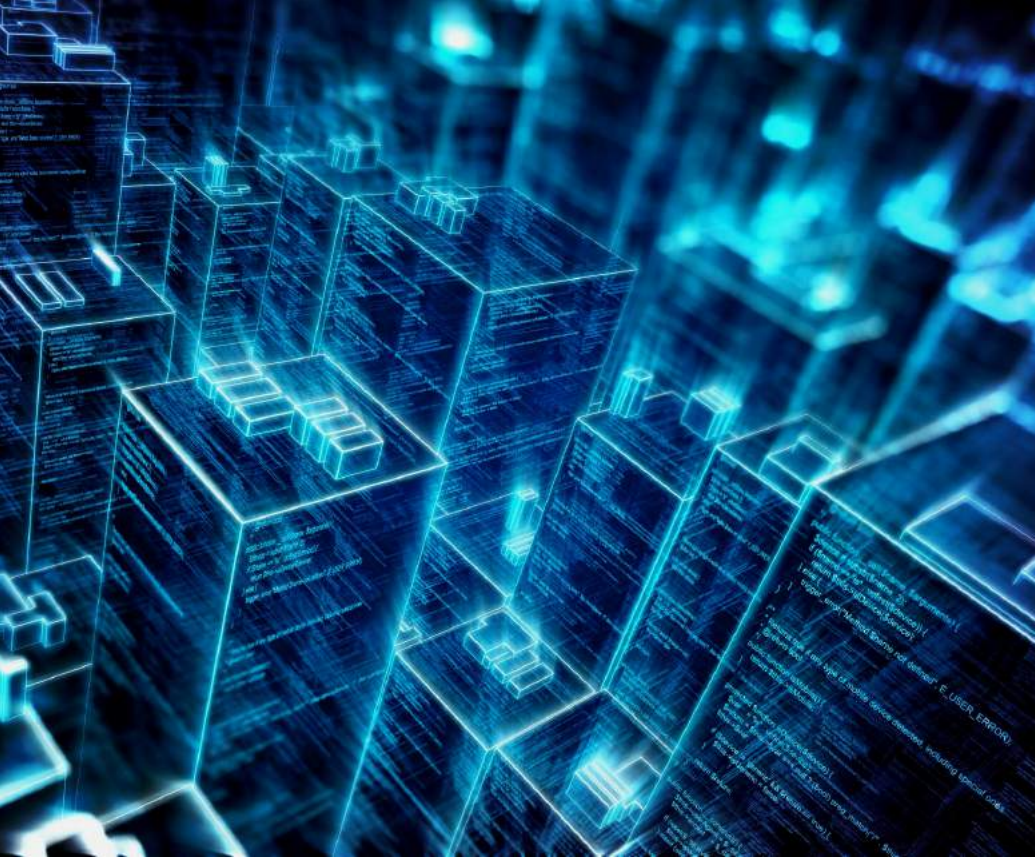
The mobile worker (the worker carrying out the necessary services on customers sites for example a mobile worker despatched to site for maintenance and/or repair) should:

- 3.1. **Not** be used as mobile worker during the coronavirus outbreak if they are in vulnerable groups, as this will increase their risk of contracting the virus.
- 3.2. **Not** be suffering any symptoms (no matter how mild), if they do, they should be sent home immediately.
- 3.3. **Not** work when it is unsafe to do so, i.e. where either a safe working environment or safe system of work cannot be provided.
- 3.4. Follow hygiene advice produced by the government (or UK regional requirements), e.g. washing of hands etc. and if needed use of sanitising gel or sanitising wipes for hands and other surfaces where required.
- 3.5. Use appropriate PPE when required by your organisation and take reasonable care of it. For example, the use of face masks, protective gloves etc.
- 3.6. Be aware of the correct use and/or be trained in:
 - the safe use, storage and maintenance of any additional PPE measures they are expected to use, including what to do if it gets damaged or is faulty.
 - social distancing and what it means in terms of their actual role.
 - what to do if they show symptoms of coronavirus, i.e. stop work and go home.
 - how to report dangerous occurrences and near missus (as it relates to COVID-19), this could be excluding sites that cannot be made safe working environments in case further visits are requested). Any sites that are excluded should not be attended unless changes have been made to create a safe working environment for the mobile worker.
 - what constitutes a COVID-19 Secure working environment and mobile workers should be empowered to make that call when visiting a site.
 - appropriate hygiene measures, e.g. washing of hands etc. and if needed use of sanitising wipes for hands and other surfaces where required.

Note: any training provided should be verified by the employer to confirm correct understanding of the requirements and recorded.

Example of risk management when despatching mobile workers to customers sites





About the **BSIA**

The British Security Industry Association (BSIA) is the trade association for the professional security industry in the UK.

Our members are responsible for more than 70% of privately provided UK security products and services (by turnover) including the manufacture, distribution and installation of electronic and physical security equipment and the provision of security guarding and consultancy services.

Our members are industry professionals ranging in size from global companies to small and medium enterprises, offering quality products and services to a vast spectrum of end-users.

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