

Lab & Production Services:  
Business Process Consulting

# Reopening laboratories:

Customized solutions for re-entry



In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the shutdown of laboratories occurred virtually overnight for many; however, the process for reopening facilities will require advanced scrutiny, precision and planning. In order to resume operations, companies must meet new requirements and adhere to novel guidelines to overcome never-before-experienced challenges. Companies are forced to respond to questions such as:

- How can we reduce the risk to our returning employees?
- How will prescribed guidelines for social distancing affect our lab operations?
- How can we plan for maximum efficiency and productivity as restrictions transform laboratories?

The Avantor Business Process Consulting (BPC) team is here to help. Using LEAN methodology, a BPC assessment will provide targeted solutions for getting back to work.

### When is a BPC assessment recommended?

Our customers' needs vary greatly by both size and market segment. Examples of problems that may exist for smaller and medium-sized companies include:

- Limited Environmental Health and Safety resources to convert guidelines into site-specific documentation
- Unidentified or undocumented risks that stall reopening efforts
- Lack of a process to mitigate changes
- Resource planning: usage tracking and inventory management of personal protective equipment
- Workflow navigation of employees in shared spaces and sharing of equipment

With extensive experience in mapping workplace process flows, as well as designing optimized planning for resources, the BPC team will create a customized solution to maximize productivity while complying with guidance to manage health and safety risks.

### What can the BPC team deliver?

Each laboratory and workplace has a unique set of challenges. Customers can select from a range of options for assessment, including but not limited to:

- Customized past-, current- and future-state process maps
- Spaghetti diagrams of daily workflows within laboratory and non-laboratory spaces
- Job hazard analyses and risk assessments
- Failure mode and effects analysis for critical operations
- Training and communication planning
- Development of worksite-specific response plans
- Documentation (via SOPs, work instructions) to facilitate compliance with guidelines
- Recommendations for optimal resource scheduling to meet research goals
- Assessment of sanitization resourcing needs
- Creation of resourcing plans with phased workplace re-entry

### How will a BPC assessment be conducted?

A BPC assessment of a customer site is conducted in consideration of CDC guidelines and local policies utilizing technology, such as Go-Pros and portable electronics to assess workstreams. The BPC team will work in collaboration with site facilities, laboratory staff and other key parties to understand business requirements and daily operations. On-site visits will be considered for regions where restrictions permit.

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