

# COVID-19 – WHEN PHYSICAL DISTANCING IS NOT PRACTICAL

Certain work in heavy construction, such as working in a sewer and water excavation or working side-by-side on a paving operation, may not allow for physical distancing.

When physical distancing is not possible, the use of non-N95 masks (paper- or fabric-based) in conjunction with other PPE and strict COVID-19 prevention procedures followed on-site may reduce the potential exposure to COVID-19.

## PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW WHEN PHYSICAL DISTANCING IS NOT POSSIBLE

### Basic Covid-19 Prevention Procedures

- Conduct the WORKSAFELY **COVID-19 Health Screening Tool** at the beginning of every shift and periodically throughout the shift to ensure the health of your workers. Send persons home if they confirm illness or identify elevated risk through the use of the screening tool.
- Promote and practice proper hand washing practices.
- Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces, such as tools and equipment.
- Regularly clean and disinfect toilet and hand-washing facilities.
- For detailed COVID-19 prevention procedures refer to the WORKSAFELY document **COVID-19 Prevention Procedures for Construction Sites**.

### Use of Non-N95 Masks

- Where social distancing requirements cannot be adhered to, public health authorities have advised that cloth facial coverings may be worn to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.
- Cloth face coverings are designed to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 from the wearer to others.
- For detailed practices for the use and care of non-N95 masks please refer to the WORKSAFELY document **Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Prevent COVID-19**.

### Use of Safety Glasses

- The use of safety glasses can help prevent the COVID-19 virus from entering the eye and should be used in conjunction with other PPE such as face coverings and gloves.

## PROTECTING AGAINST CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

- Cloth face coverings do not replace N-95 respirators or other respiratory protection where required by task or legislation to protect against chemical and biological hazards.