

Information Bulletin No. IB20-006

March 16, 2020

- **WITHDRAWN May 15, 2020**

ABSA COVID-19 Measures

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, ABSA has taken reasonable measures to protect its staff and support the health of our community by implementing social distancing practices to help reduce the spread of the virus.

Effective March 16, 2020, ABSA offices are closed to the public, guests and visitors, and will remain closed until the imminent threat to public health is reduced.

During this period ABSA staff will be providing limited services. Any work that can be done from home is being done from home. A small number of staff will be working at our offices to perform critical tasks that cannot be done elsewhere. We will continue to receive mail and courier deliveries at our offices. Payment for goods and services received by ABSA will not be interrupted. It is not business as usual, but we are committed to providing the best services we can under the circumstances.

- All examinations, welder tests and seminars are cancelled until at least May 15, 2020.
- We are asking all clients to submit designs electronically via email or, once an account is set up, through the new CRNOnline web portal. We will continue to accept hard copy submissions, but processing these will take longer than the current norm.
- We will respond to reports of unsafe conditions and accidents.
- We will continue to provide shop inspection services, and repair and alteration inspection services at shop and field sites. Inspectors will be conducting a COVID-19 Job Safety Analysis (JSA) prior to visiting the facility. Please be prepared to discuss the actions your company has taken to protect your staff and our inspectors.
- In-service inspections and quality system audits are hereby suspended. Extensions will be issued to Quality Management System (QMS) certificates that are due to expire.
- We will continue to accept requests for in-service inspections and quality systems audits on a case-by-case basis and will determine our response on the outcome of a health and safety risk assessment.
- No in-person meetings will be held at ABSA offices until further notice. Previously scheduled in-person meetings are now cancelled, but may be rescheduled to Skype format.
- ABSA staff can be contacted by email or by telephone in the usual manner.

ABSA management is monitoring the situation and reviewing our contingencies on a daily basis.

Stay safe and stay healthy,

Mike Poehlmann
General Manager