

Best Practice Checklist Series - Issue 22

Health and Safety Technologies

Understanding the basics: A layperson's guide and checklist for overseeing IT.

Best Practice Checklist Series
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Health and Safety Technologies

Little more than a year ago, if posed with the question whether health and safety technologies would have fallen within the purview of Sandbox Technologies, the answer would have likely been a resounding “No”. With that said, it’s perhaps wise that one should never entirely rule out the unexpected.

In the last twelve months, a number of our engineers unexpectedly found themselves enrolled in self-directed crash courses in the deployment of various facial recognition and temperature scanning kiosks, employee wellness-tracking applications, and a host of videoconferencing equipment and solutions.

As of this writing, we choose to be optimistic that while the foregoing technologies are likely to remain for some time (with the widespread adoption of videoconferencing and remote work solutions assuming a degree of permanence), science and advancements in medical technologies will hopefully render some of the former solutions obsolete and/or unnecessary.

In the meantime, in keeping with our role as technologists, we remain cognizant of our role as protectors, and our duty to hope for the best, but continue to prepare for the unexpected. As such, we are continuing to explore new technologies to aid our clients in the unfortunate event that a resurgence should warrant further attention to technologies that facilitate remote workflows, such as telepresence devices and nascent augmented reality solutions that are without a doubt unique and to a degree mind-bending to even the most VR enthusiasts within our staff.

With that said, we’ll proceed with this installment of the Best Practice Checklist Series, and as always, your Sandbox Technologies Engineer, Account Manager, or Consulting CIO will be happy to answer any questions you may have (or in this case, connect you with the various individual(s) that have undertaken to familiarize themselves with the various and unique technologies relevant to this issue.)

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Has your organization deployed a means of restricting access to company premises to persons not exhibiting temperatures potentially indicative of a COVID-19 infection?

Various have been developed for this purpose with a range of functions, including logging, facial recognition, and integrations with access control solutions.

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Has your organization implemented software to provide basic COVID-19 training?

The COVID-19 Compliance Coach offers COVID-19 training from the convenience of a mobile phone. Employees can explore six engaging six-minute training courses* designed with content from the CDC, OSHA, FEMA, and DHS. Plus, confirm staff comprehension with built in quizzes, knowledge checks, and progress-tracking features. Courses include: COVID-19 Hazards & Prevention, Effects of COVID-19 on Business, Remote Service Models for Customers, Telework Productivity Practices, Cybersecurity Basics, and Safe Travel Practices.

*The CARES Act specifies that small businesses may be eligible for educational grants for these topics.

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Has your organization implemented software that asks employees recommended health status questions on a daily basis prior to reporting to work?

Before arriving to work each day, employees the COVID-19 Compliance Coach requests that enrollees answer three simple questions regarding symptoms, exposure, and risk. Based on individual responses, the application then provides immediate CDC-recommended actions and reports employee results back to management for review on an intuitive, online Admin Portal.

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Is your organization aggressively and securely leveraging conferencing solutions, such as Zoom, BlueJeans and other applications to facilitate face-to-face contact while minimizing the potential for COVID-19 infection due to contact?

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Has your company implemented a solution that logs remote user activity for the purpose of reviewing activity during business hours and taking proactive measures to encourage user performance improvements when deemed appropriate?

(For more detailed information concerning this topic, see "Remote Worker Security and Productivity" and the sample report on page 13 of the aforementioned issue.)

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