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## Face Mask Requirement Update Tailgate

East Penn's COVID Response team has been reviewing both our company and national COVID case counts. This past week East Penn has seen our case count double. Despite our continued efforts to maintain a safe work environment, infections from COVID-19 variants, especially the Omicron variant, are affecting too many of our employees. The case count for our facilities company-wide are at record high numbers. This number includes both vaccinated and unvaccinated employees. COVID-19 remains a serious concern for everyone.

***For everyone's protection, East Penn will be requiring all employees to wear masks regardless of their vaccination status starting the week of January 9, 2022 until further notice.*** We are hoping to have this mandate in effect for one month and will review it on a weekly basis as we review our case counts and will return to the current status when we see case counts significantly lower.

### **Requirements for all employees of East Penn:**

- Must wear mask entering and exiting buildings
- Must wear mask when interacting with others, walking hallways, in meetings, etc.
- Must wear mask in and outside of 6-foot contact range
- A mask must be worn when traveling to and from break, beginning and end of shift, inside the locker room (other than while showering).
- Employees with a respirator requirement due to the lead standard must adhere to the half shift or full shift respirator requirements as instructed by the Health and Safety Department and wear a mask/face shield during other non-required times.
- During break times, employees can remove the mask while eating and drinking and should put the mask back on when finished eating/drinking.

We also want to ask all employees to be conscious of social distancing. We are seeing many cases of employees being within 6 feet of other employees for non-work-related reasons and having to quarantine due to potential exposure to COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued cooperation during these challenging COVID times. Remember, wearing a mask not only protects you, but protects other people as well. We want to do all we can to continue to keep our work environment a safe place for everyone and we encourage everyone to wear masks outside of East Penn as well.