

## Business Continuity Plan statement-Covid-19 Outbreak

Bigneat Group fully recognises that managing risk for the sustainment of the company's activities is vital. This Pandemic in particular can significantly affect the companies overall activities, however, we are confident we are able to mitigate these risks providing a "business to as near usual" by implementing the following contingencies;

As a consequence of the scale and impact of the coronavirus, the UK is now in the "social distancing" phase with extensive "lockdown" being enforced to lessen the unprecedented spread and impact of the outbreak, the full extent of which is still being continuously monitored by the Government.

Bigneat has already assessed the sourcing of all critical components and managing the associated logistics to promptly increase our stock levels to mitigate risk. The findings will be used to update the company's existing business continuity/disaster recovery plan.

### **i. Utilising Resources-loss of personnel**

Bigneat employees are already fully integrated within our operational systems and can be utilised to reduce the impact of a number of employees becoming unavailable for work due to imposed self-isolation, affecting operations to varying degrees.

A significant number of employees are now working remotely away from the office at their homes, with full access to all systems to ensure continuity of valuable technical, administrative and sales support functions.

### **ii. Maintaining supply of goods and support services**

Since Bigneat own and operate their own service vehicles, any disruption to national postal or transport infrastructure would not impact in the intermediate period too greatly on the ability to supply products, or spares to customer's sites, or collect supplies from sub-contractors.

### **iii. Failure of our own supply chain**

Bigneat have suppliers providing certain critical-components and have ensured that they activate contingency plans to support our supply requirements. Increased stock of critical-components has already been actioned to offset potential industry estimated delays of several weeks from these suppliers who use China along with other 3<sup>rd</sup> party overseas sources.

These measures will enable Bigneat to ensure a continued manufacturing and supply of Products, Service and Spare Parts until near normal operating facilities are restored and enable the minimum downtime in being able to provide a high-quality service to all our existing and new customers.

### **iv. Maintaining production and deliveries**

As an essential supplier and service provider to the pharmaceutical industry, we do not anticipate closing down any of our sites, indeed we are doing everything we can to maintain all business activities, but ensuring the risk of cross-contamination between employees and the public is minimal by implementing the latest advice and guidance from the UK Government, regarding appropriate hand washing, regular use of protective gloves and keeping a safe isolation distance of 2 metres minimum to ensure safety of our employees and our clients.



We are responding to our customer's individual safety concerns and their particular logistic requirements, with our 'key worker' service engineers continuing to provide the critical maintenance and regulatory testing of client's fume cabinets and enclosures attending their sites as long as our clients enable us to do this.

We are pleased to be working in direct collaboration with an increasing number of pharmaceutical research laboratories by designing, manufacturing and delivering specialised sterile-air containment enclosures in short time to support critical screening testing of potential Covid-19 samples, now being adopted in the battle to contain the virus. This collaboration will support 50% of the countries screening programme.

We do not manufacture or supply critical medical devices, drugs or other direct patient contact products. Our fume cabinets and related products are installed in many laboratory-based companies, (pharmaceutical based processes and in applications with certain NHS Trust hospitals), and this in itself will not adversely affect the operational integrity of those existing medical or pharmaceutical based facilities.

We will continue to review and update our contingency plans accordingly and communicate these to our clients

Michael Tanner

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