

COVID-19 PANDEMIC: PROPERTY LOSS PREVENTION

Logistics and Transportation Sector

At FM Global we remain committed to providing our clients with the best property loss prevention advice to keep your facilities resilient and safe, particularly during these challenging times. Industry is adapting rapidly to the new demands caused by these challenges. These can have an impact on property risks and resulting business interruption for the logistics and transportation sectors. We are seeing the following trends:

- Owing to restrictions on people's movements, reductions in commercial flights has led to the idling of aircraft.
- Fewer goods being sold in "bricks-and-mortar" retail has caused a marked drop in shipping. However, bulk buying and online shopping have seen increased volumes in some segments.
- The emergency storage of goods, such as hand sanitizer and medical supplies, in quantities and arrangements in structures that are neither designed nor adequately protected for these purposes.
- Staffing shortages (due to local restrictions or illness) could affect maintenance activities.
- Reductions in logistics will result in either partly or wholly unoccupied, unattended properties.
- potential sources of ignition such as electrical fittings, smoking and any hot work should be implemented.
- Where increased amounts of emergency medical supplies are stored, the heights and arrangement should be kept within the limits of the building's fire protection systems: aisles should be kept clear and a clearance of 3ft (0.9 m) maintained between the ceiling sprinklers and the top of storage. If in doubt, contact your FM Global or AFM account engineer for further advice.
- If shortages in staff or contractor availability affect the maintenance and inspection of fire protection systems, this increases the risk of a major fire event: every effort should be made to continue vital checks such as weekly checking of sprinklers valves locked in the open position and fire pumps and tanks in service.
- For unoccupied or unattended property, see [FM Global's latest advice](#).

To assist you in your efforts to mitigate the potential impact of these risks in this sector, the following loss prevention advice will help keep your properties resilient and safe.

PROPERTY LOSS PREVENTION ADVICE

- For idle aircraft parked in hangars, ensure the fire protection is in service. In addition, fueled aircraft should only be staged in hangars provided with fire protection adequate for that purpose/hazard.
- Ignitable liquids such as alcohol-based hand-sanitizer products in plastic containers can represent a serious fire exposure to any building. Fire sprinkler systems are often not designed for this challenge, so it is important to minimize the quantities present and storage heights with cut-off rooms preferred. In these areas, increased precautions and controls over

USEFUL RESOURCES

These FM Global resources can provide you with additional information:

- [Understanding the Hazard: Idle, Vacant, or Strikebound Facilities](#)
- [Pandemic Property Loss Prevention](#)

For more information and methods for addressing loss prevention concerns at your facility, refer to the free resources on FM Global's website at fmglobal.com. FM Global and AFM clients can contact their account engineer.



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