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## NFC Forms Alliance with GCs for Contagious Disease Preparedness

On Friday, May 1, members of the National Framers Council (NFC) Steering Committee met with a group of general contractors (GCs) to discuss forming an industry alliance to establish a standard approach to contagious disease response and preparedness in the wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic. The alliance will tackle the creation of a benchmark response to the issues that pertain most to keeping workers safe and slowing the spread of any contagious disease that could threaten the health and livelihood of essential workers on various construction sites.

The goal is to leverage the documented safety protocols of the like-minded GCs in the alliance with NFC staff resources to compile a set of best practices that can inform standard operating procedures going forward. At this time, in addition to general CDC Guidelines, we plan to address the following:

- Training and Project Orientation Procedures
- Jobsite Protective Measures
- Personal Wellness Procedures
- Jobsite Cleaning
- Local Travel Procedures (Public Transportation, Van Transportation, Carpooling, etc.)
- Project Shutdown Procedures
- Project Startup Procedures
- Supply Chain Monitoring
- Recordkeeping
- Jobsite Screening (Temperature Monitoring)
- Contract Tracing
- Testing Programs
- PPE Supply Chain Coordination

Furthermore, the group is committed to tackling this work in a way that ensures it has a life beyond the current situation to increase preparedness and elevate the overall safety of those in construction, thereby protecting workers from any ongoing or future threats of contagious disease. To that end, the alliance will undertake this work with these goals in mind:

- To deliver a consistent message through frequent training.
- To create and use resources that are easily accessed and understood by all workers.
- To provide more conformity in safety enforcement across the tiers from GCs to framing contractors to their subcontractors to improve overall safety for everyone on the jobsite.

Next steps include compiling the standard operating procedures (SOPs) regarding contagious disease preparedness from our participating GCs. Alliance members will then reconvene to discuss points of divergence and how to move forward with a set of best practices that work well for all involved.

NFC Staff is looking for SOPs from any GC that would like to participate in the alliance. Once compilation has been completed, NFC will provide a draft document for review and revision. With all points of view accounted for, a final document for GCs to utilize will be released that will serve as a template in which jobsite-specific modifications can also be made.

The alliance is currently supported by the following General Contractors:

David Doll	Avalon Bay
Kelly Cantley	Bozzuto Construction Company
Mark Weisner	Bozzuto Construction Company
Nate Tayoun	Caritas Construction
Dan Blankfeld	CBG Building Company
Glenn Ferguson	CBG Building Company
Charles Hall	Charles Hall Construction
Jon Weiss	The Engel Burman Group
Scott Burman	The Engel Burman Group
Larry Kraemer	Harkens Builders
Darran Mullahy	Hunter Roberts Construction Group
Jim Dunn	Katerra
Kyle Masters	Katerra
Steve Steelman	Mill Creek Residential
Mike Shorter	Mill Creek Residential
Scott Alford	Miller & Smith, Inc.
Eric Farrar	Trammel Crow Residential

The alliance is currently supported by the NFC Steering Committee Members:

Pedro Loureiro	Nomad Framing, LLC
Chris Tatge	Dynamic Construction
Scott Stevens	Modu Tech
Andy Sage	Straight Up Framing
Ken Shifflett	Ace Carpentry, Inc.

To view a complete listing of NFC Members, visit the <u>NFC website</u>. For more information or to get involved, contact <u>Jess Lohse</u> or <u>Mindy Caldwell</u>.

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The <u>National Framers Council</u>, a council of the Structural Building Components Association (SBCA), was established to create a community of like-minded framers, GCs, suppliers and design professionals to foster better communication and collaboration among framers and with design professionals and component manufacturers. Its goal is to develop standards, best practices, and professional support systems to increase knowledge, improve safety, and encourage camaraderie among framers at companies of all sizes.

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