

EMECA exhibition venues – safe and healthy places for exhibitions

All EMECA exhibition venues have proactively developed advanced health and safety protocols that take into account the respective Covid-19 situation and are based on WHO and on national as well as local health guidelines. And they have established a comprehensive EMECA database for the best measures, practices and technologies.

EMECA exhibition venues are designed to host large events flexibly and to structure and steer the audiences safely on their entire journey. Exhibitions are platforms for industries to showcase their innovations, products and services and for people to meet personally to do business, to inspire and to learn.

These B2B and B2C exhibitions have always been held in a safe and secure environment. Our utmost aim is to protect the communities we serve and our providers and employees from any risks.

We look forward to welcoming again soon our exhibitors and visitors!

Anti-Covid-19 measures at the EMECA exhibition venues

Risk assessment and planning

The type and size of each event will be assessed, its timeframe, the respective space available as well as the expected audience type and number. Health and safety measures already in place and additional action required will be evaluated.

- On the base of the assessment, each event will be planned, managed and monitored to minimise the risks for all parties involved: exhibitors, visitors, providers and employees.
- The exact distribution of roles and responsibilities of the venue, the organiser and all other parties involved in staging the exhibition will be established.
- At any time, a close connection with all official security and health authorities is being maintained to allow seamless collaboration in all phases.

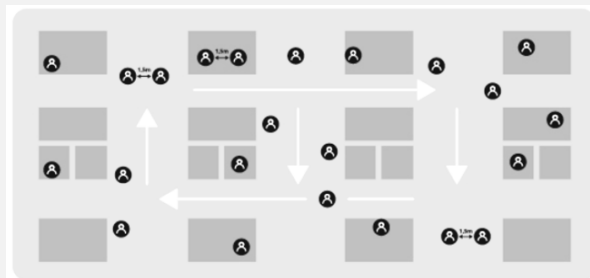
Distancing, guidance and crowd control

In principle, respecting minimum physical distance shall be the main means to avoid any risk while allowing a productive business environment.

- To support this, EMECA recommends to generally implement a touchless-strategy both across the exhibition venue itself and for exhibition elements at the stands. Furthermore, EMECA venues encourage a no-contact-policy for all attendees, staff and providers.
- EMECA venues will care for avoiding high density zones already in the planning and manage the maximum number of attendees present in each area.
- Entrances, exits, halls' set-up, aisles, conference areas and all other spaces will be designed to enable necessary distance between the attendees. Digital simulations allow to assess the concept.

- Where the physical distances may not be kept at all times, additional protective measures like wearing face masks or shields will be required. Transparent barriers at counters shall be used at all contact points, e.g. cloakrooms or exhibition customer service.

- Queue management and crowd control mechanisms will guide entry, visitor flows and exit. Technology like real-time control of spaces, flexible digital signage and if necessary introducing access time slots, physical measures like barriers, floor markings, one-way flows and increased number of guides and security staff will support the implementation and complement control.



- Exhibitors will be allowed a limited number of staff at the time at their stand. They will be encouraged to adapt the design of their stands to avoid crowded zones and close contact with the visitors while still allowing optimal product display and presentation. Exhibitors will be invited to use electronic information materials and exchange of contact data. Exhibitors are not allowed to organise any presentations, receptions or other activities that assemble uncontrolled numbers of attendees at their stands.

Sanitary measures, information and training

- All areas will be ventilated or air conditioned at all times while staff, providers or attendees are present on the fairgrounds.

- Enhanced cleaning, waste removal and disinfection protocols will be set up for all areas.

- A suitable number of sanitising dispensers will be available at all entrances, exits and widely at any other highly frequented or sensitive area, e.g. the catering zones or sanitary installations.

- The exact measures and sanitary policy will be communicated actively and displayed visibly and widely to all attendees, providers and employees.

- Employees and providers will undergo strict training for the specific measures.

- Exhibitors will need to follow a cleaning and disinfection protocol for their stands and exhibits. Control mechanisms will be installed.

- Catering will be organised according to the respective local rules for the gastronomy including enhanced sanitary measures and subject to rigorous surveillance.

Additional health measures

- Screening employees', providers' and all attendees' health may be introduced if required while fully respecting data protection. This may include collecting or checking health declarations or documentation, temperature tests and offering a process for denying access and dealing with suspect cases in isolation areas in collaboration with local health authorities according to the applicable protocols.

- If available, a tracking app will be an option to offer additional security. It may be optional or obligatory to use, according to the respective infection situation and the applicable legal framework.

- A specific Covid-19 medical service point may be established or the usual permanent medical emergency station may need to be adapted to the specific requirements of Covid-19.

Registration, information and communication

- Registration should be only online. Participants will be informed about the measures and requirements. They have to express their consent to the regulations and data collection required.
- Verification of registration data will be implemented at check-in if required. An accurate and detailed list of attendees, providers and employees must be ready at any time for the authorities to intervene in case needed.
- Any direct contact in the registration and check-in process shall be reduced to a minimum, whatever possible shall be organised in a touchless way, e.g. physical badges shall be avoided or be printed at home, digital check-in per app may be introduced.
- Information about the regulations in place must be widely available before, during and after the event. They will be displayed online, clearly visible all across the venue and shared via loudspeakers, the event app or any other appropriate means to keep awareness high. It is recommended to avoid any flyers or maps on paper.

Journey, arrival, departure

The entire journey including arrival and departure of attendees will be permanently monitored and organised in a flexible way to avoid queues and high density areas by using several entrances and exits. Employees and providers will use separate entrances and exits.

- Seamless connections with public transport, taxis and shuttles will be ensured, drop-off and waiting for departure zones will be separated. For shuttles under the exhibition venues responsibility, the respective regulations for coach transport or public transport shall be applied.

Set-up and dismantling

- Set-up and dismantling periods will be controlled to steer and reduce the number of workers in the halls and the open areas, following established health and safety rules in the country. Logistics and traffic will be organised accordingly.
- More frequent and special cleaning and sanitising will be obligatory. In case required, before opening the event and after the dismantling, rigorous cleaning and sanitising of the entire spaces may be applied.

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About EMECA

EMECA is the professional association of 24 major and largest exhibition centres in Europe, many of which are also exhibition and event organisers. EMECA drives excellence in the European exhibition industry, by fostering the highest business standards and customer service levels of its members. The EMECA venues organise over 1,800 exhibitions a year with more than 410,000 exhibitors and 42 million visitors on a gross rented display area of roughly 37 million square meters. Based on data for 2016, the socio-economic effect generated by the EMECA Members amounts to EUR 120,638 million, 40% of the socio-economic impact calculated for the exhibition industry in Europe.

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