



Restarting Equipment After Business Shutdown

Minimize equipment damage after COVID-19 shutdown.

Restarting a business after an idle period or shutdown requires planning and preparation to avoid equipment related issues and unexpected breakdown. Listed below are various considerations for restarting equipment and reopening a facility after shutdown.

Checklist

- Travel restrictions may result in a lack of specialized/factory trained service technicians. Ensure that only qualified contractors or employees perform repairs and service.
- Supply chain interruptions may affect the availability of materials and spare parts. Ensure that only OEM parts are used for repairs and planned replacements are not deferred.
- Ensure that the installation of shielding for social distancing does not interfere with equipment or cause overheating due to interrupted air flow.
- Train employees in enhanced cleaning procedures to avoid damage to electrical equipment.
- Before a full resumption of operations, perform a Risk Assessment Inspection of the facility to locate any failure points.
- Any scheduled maintenance items that were deferred should be completed prior to starting equipment.
- If building HVAC was shutdown, have a qualified contractor inspect and service the equipment prior to initial startup. Inspect building systems and equipment for damage from excessive condensation.
- Restarting boilers should be performed by a trained individual after a thorough inspection of the appliance.
- Plan startup of electrical in stages to avoid surge damage. This is especially important where large loads are involved.
- Idled mechanical equipment components such as bearings, shafts, seals, and valves may have become seized over time. Ensure all motive equipment has proper lubrication levels. Check lubricants for moisture.
- If electrical equipment is relocated to comply with social distancing, have a qualified electrician provide permanently installed power. Do not use extension cords or other temporary wiring.
- Enhanced spacing of desks and workstations may require movement of electrical equipment. Excessive use of extension cords not only present a fire hazard but can also result in equipment damage from low voltage and overheating.
- Excessive use of equipment to accommodate "split sessions" can result in equipment damage from overheating. Provide additional equipment to minimize usage cycles.

Available Resources

The National Restaurant Association

- COVID-19 Reopening Guidance: [restaurant.org/Downloads/PDFs/business/COVID19-Reopen-Guidance.pdf](https://www.restaurant.org/Downloads/PDFs/business/COVID19-Reopen-Guidance.pdf)
- Coronavirus Information and Resources: [restaurant.org/covid19](https://www.restaurant.org/covid19)

Food and Drug Administration

- Best Practices for Retail Food Stores, Restaurants, and Food Pick-Up/Delivery Services During the COVID-19 Pandemic: [fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/best-practices-retail-food-stores-restaurants-and-food-pick-up-delivery-services-during-covid-19](https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/best-practices-retail-food-stores-restaurants-and-food-pick-up-delivery-services-during-covid-19)
- Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease: [fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19](https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19)

Centers for Disease Control

- What to Do If You Are Sick: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/index.html)

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- Food & Product Delivery Best Practices: [thoughtful.mutualofenumclaw.com/share/food-and-product-delivery-best-practices](https://www.thoughtful.mutualofenumclaw.com/share/food-and-product-delivery-best-practices)
- Restaurants and COVID-19: [mutualofenumclaw.com/restaurant-covid19](https://www.mutualofenumclaw.com/restaurant-covid19)
- Digital/Self-Service Options: [thoughtful.mutualofenumclaw.com/share/digital-options](https://www.thoughtful.mutualofenumclaw.com/share/digital-options)
- Our Response to COVID-19: [mutualofenumclaw.com/coronavirus](https://www.mutualofenumclaw.com/coronavirus)