

Safety Commission Virtual Panel

*From Pandemic to Endemic:
Sustaining a Safe Working Environment
in The COVID Era*



With special thanks to the WEDA Safety Commission:

- Julie Hile, WEDA Board of Directors
- Zach Chester, Gulf Coast Senior
- Jos Clement, West Coast, Senior
- Stan Ekren, Midwest Senior
- Jeremy Gasser, East Coast Young WEDA
- Randy Steed, West Coast Senior

Sustaining a Safe Working Environment in The COVID Era

Panelists:

- **Sheri Brenner**, Director, QHSE, J.E. McAmis
- **Armand Riehl**, VP, Sr Project Sponsor, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co.
- **Henry Schorr**, P.E., VP, Manson Construction Company
- **Rebekah Troxell**, Director of HSE, Ballard Marine

Moderator: **Julie Hile**, President, Hile Group Inc, WEDA Safety Commission Chair

Facilitator: **Erin Jensen**, Performance Consultant, Hile Group Inc.

How would you describe Covid's impact on your organization culture?

Summarize the impact on your company's key pandemic response policies. Examples may include:

✓ Vaccinations	✓ Sick time
✓ Masking and social distancing	✓ Work from home
✓ Antigen and PCR testing	✓ Work stoppage due to insufficient manpower
✓ Quarantines	✓ Essential worker incentives

What early pandemic challenges have you and your colleagues worked through most effectively?

What new challenges are emerging as the Delta and Omicron variants prolong pandemic hazards and constraints?

Sustaining a Safe Working Environment in The COVID Era

How would you describe your crews' attitudes toward testing/vaccination/etc. in response to an exposure requiring all contacts to quarantine away from work?

Sustaining a Safe Working Environment in The COVID Era

Many original strategies focused on managing a short-term Covid pandemic. As the pandemic evolves into an endemic societal presence for the long haul, what are you doing to shift mindsets and behaviors of management and crew?

*How do you stay current on ever-changing CDC and OSHA
guidelines?*

COVID silver linings are practices or protocols developed in response to COVID that have improved performance such that they will be continued.

What new practices have your and your colleagues tried that you will definitely continue, pandemic or no? What Covid practices will you definitely stop as life returns to normal?

Questions?

Applications for the Safety Excellence Award for Dredging Project or Dredging Contractor are due to Julie Hile at hile@hilegroup.com by April 8, 2022.

Visit the WEDA Safety page to download the application.



Contact Information

- Julie Hile, Hile@HileGroup.com
- Erin Jensen, Jensen@HileGroup.com
- Sheri Brenner,
Sheri@JEMcAmis.com
- Armand Riehl, AFRiehl@GLDD.com
- Henry Schorr,
HSchorr@MansonConstruction.com
- Rebekah Troxell,
Rebekah.Troxell@BallardMC.com

