



COVID-19 health and safety

Our health and safety plan:

Our first responsibility is to you, our attendees, our exhibitors, our partners, and our team. We're 100% committed to your health and safety. We're putting rigorous plans in place for our safe return to a live event.

We're working closely with our partners in Long Beach as we follow all federal, state, local and CDC guidelines. And we're drawing on the experience of our US and global industry partners, many of whom have successfully staged live events in the past few months.

Our health and safety plan is designed to create the best experience possible, one where you can safely and effectively present, learn, network, and exhibit. We hope the guidelines below answer your questions and look forward to welcoming you to the Long Beach Convention Center and the 2022 SVC TechCon.

What are your current COVID-19 health and safety plans?

On November 13, 2021, the SVC Board of Directors announced that the SVC TechCon will align their COVID safety protocols with that of the [City of Long Beach](#), [Los Angeles County](#), and the [Long Beach Convention Center](#). These rules currently stipulate that all 2022 SVC TechCon participants, Convention Center staff, Freeman decorating staff, SVC staff, and all SVC contractors engaged to participate at the venue during the TechCon must adhere to local regulations in-force at the time. Current requirements are that all participants must provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or proof of a recent negative Covid-19 test (within 72 hours of the date of admission to the Convention center) to gain entry to the TechCon, cross-checked against a suitable photo identification. In addition, masking is required, regardless of vaccination status,

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for all events (except when eating or drinking) once you have entered the Long Beach Convention Center. In addition, we have many detailed plans in place to ensure a safe and productive show.

Please note that Covid 19 federal, state, and local health/plans are constantly evolving and there is a possibility that by the time the SVC TechCon is held, only fully vaccinated people

will be allowed to participate in any indoor events in the City of Long Beach and the Long Beach Convention Center. For this reason, **we strongly urge** anyone planning to attend the 2022 TechCon to be fully vaccinated and to not rely on a negative Covid test to gain admission at the entrance to the Long Beach Convention Center.

The SVC will not assume any liability or issue any refunds to anyone who is not fully vaccinated and/or who cannot gain entrance to the event by conforming to the current local health mandates in force at the start of the SVC 2022 TechCon.

By what date do I need to be vaccinated by to participate in the SVC 2022 TechCon?

Participants are considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after they have completed either the second dose in a two-dose series (e.g., Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca) or after a single dose of a one-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson & Johnson). Mixed vaccines will also be accepted (e.g., one dose of Moderna and one dose of Pfizer). Participants should complete their final vaccine by April 16, 2022, to be considered fully vaccinated for the SVC 2022 TechCon.

Which vaccines will you accept?

We will accept WHO-approved vaccines that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA. The current list of acceptable vaccines is as follows:

- ï Covishield COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Moderna (mRNA-1273) COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine

This list may be updated as we approach the TechCon and the best source of information will be the [CDC website](#).

How do I verify my COVID-19 vaccination?

COVID-19 vaccine certification will be accomplished via on-site verification of a vaccination certificate/record or a recent negative Covid-19 test (within 72 hours of the date of admission to the Convention center), cross-checked against a photo identification at the entrance of the Convention center before gaining entry to the Convention Center. Upon verification each attendee will be issued a color coded daily identification tag that will visibly display their clearance to all conference attendees and event staff.

Will I also need to provide proof of a COVID-19 booster shot?

No, not at this time. Current regulations define fully vaccinated (defined by the CDC) as two weeks after a second dose in a two-dose series, or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine. We will always follow county of Los Angeles and City of Long Beach health department regulations as it pertains to the definition of “fully vaccinated”. This may change over time, so we suggest that you check back frequently with the SVC Covid Policy posted on our TechCon website for updates.

Can I attend the 2022 SVC TechCon with proof of a negative COVID-19 test or with proof of COVID-19 antibodies?

As the regulations currently stand, YES, a negative COVID-19 test, or proof of antibodies will be accepted as a substitution for being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. However, as mentioned previously, we will be aligned with federal, state, county, and city government regulations which are subject to change and the only way to ensure complete access is through complete Covid-19 vaccination.

Realize that the SVC TechCon is a potentially 6 day event and those attendees who are not vaccinated and plan to attend for multiple days may potentially be required to test more than once over the course of the event.

Will exceptions to your COVID-19 policy of complying with local government and venue regulations be accepted?

No, we are unable to make any exceptions. We respect everyone’s personal and/or religious perspective but if you are unable to comply with the local/national health regulations, we graciously ask you to bookmark our event and attend at a future date.

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What COVID-19 safety measures are in place at Long Beach Convention Center?

It will be difficult to find a more comprehensive set of safety and sanitation measures that will be in force within the Long Beach Convention Center, the Hyatt Regency Long Beach Hotel, and the Renaissance Long Beach Hotel as the Los Angeles County and City of Long Beach health directives are among the most comprehensive protocols in force, anywhere in the world.

Long Beach Convention Center policy is as follows:

- ï Event Security staffing is mandatory at perimeter locations, to ensure guests have face masks on when entering.
- ï Signs will be posted at all entry points informing guests that masks are required.
- ï Disposable masks can be provided to the Event Security posts at points of entry for distribution to those who need one. Standard market price applies.
- ï LBCEC attendants will be continuously wiping down all high contact surfaces, i.e., door handles, elevator buttons, hand railing, escalator handrails, tabletops, chair handles, and counter tops.
- ï Hand sanitizer stands have been placed in high traffic areas at every meeting room door, escalator, elevator, concession stand and restroom.
- ï Restrooms are cleaned and sanitized every 90 minutes.
- ï All F&B retail services (concession stands) are cashless to reduce touch points.

- ï All areas of use, including the furniture, will be sanitized with disinfectant at the end of each day including the use of an electromagnetic sprayer.

Our two venue hotels, [Hyatt Regency Long Beach](#), and the [Renaissance Long Beach Hotel](#), have implemented industry leading sanitation and health policies. Considering the policies in place in the City of Long Beach, and our show hotels it is impossible for the SVC to offer a safer experience to our global stakeholders.

The SVC team plans to run its own daily inspections, pre and post show floor opening hours to ensure hygiene and cleanliness are of the highest standards.

Will I have to wear a mask during the 2022 SVC TechCon?

Currently there is a face mask mandate in place in Long Beach for all indoor areas regardless of vaccination status. As mentioned previously, policies are evolving and please be sure to check back here for any changes/updates.

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Is social distancing in place at the SVC 2022 TechCon?

Strict social distancing is not a requirement at the 2022 SVC TechCon. However, much effort has gone into designing the show to provide plenty of space and comfort for all participants, including wider aisles, seating areas on the show floor, multiple entrances, larger spaces for the conference and education areas. We plan to use the ample space afforded to us at the Convention center to spread out our events and presentations where possible so we can offer the safest possible environment.

What will you do if someone tests positive at the show?

The SVC Operational team will be in daily communication with the Long Beach Convention Center and the Hyatt/Renaissance hotel teams. Although the likelihood of you contacting Covid-19 at our event is negligible, we do need to prepare for the remote possibility that an infection occurs.

All attendees at the SVC 2022 TechCon should complete a daily self-assessment using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#). If you have any symptoms, please do not come to the show. If you are at the TechCon, and you start to experience symptoms that are consistent with Covid-19, please notify the SVC staff immediately. A First Aid station is operational during all event hours. Rapid testing site that is close to the Long Beach Convention Center ([Carbon Health Urgent Care](#)). Current costs for a rapid Covid-19 test are approximately \$100-\$200 USD.

If you do test positive for COVID-19 we encourage you to disclose the information to the SVC team, so that we may contact those that you may have been near during the show, and so that we can support you, to the best of our ability, during your isolation period.

Current City of Long Beach Regulations regarding policy and procedures if you are Sick or have been exposed to the Virus are as follows:

Order to Self-Quarantine:

- ï Quarantine is used by public health professionals to separate potentially exposed individuals from the public, in the case that they become symptomatic and contagious to others. Quarantined people are asked to limit their contact with others and may be excluded from work or school. Should they begin exhibiting symptoms, they may be required to isolate.
- ï **Anyone who has had close contact with someone who has or is likely to have COVID-19 while the person was infectious (during the time when they had symptoms or 48 hours before the person's symptoms began) is required to self-quarantine in a residence for a minimum of 7 days and monitor closely for symptoms for 14 days after last exposure to the infectious person. Quarantined people should isolate themselves immediately if they begin experiencing symptoms.**

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- ï Close Contact to someone who has or is likely to have COVID-19 is defined as a person who meets any of the following conditions:
 - Lives with or frequents the household where someone with or likely to have COVID-19 resides
 - Is an intimate partner of someone with or likely to have COVID-19?
 - Is a caregiver for someone with or likely to have COVID-19?
 - Has had any contact with someone with or likely to have COVID-19 while they were symptomatic, including anyone who:
 - Was within 6 feet of someone with or likely to have COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes OR
 - Had unprotected direct contact to secretions or excretions (sneeze or cough) of someone with or likely to have COVID-19
- ï Everyone who meets the above conditions must adhere to the requirements outlined in the [Home Quarantine Guidance for Close Contacts to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) \(Spanish\)](#) ([Khmer](#)) ([Tagalog](#)).

Order to Self-Isolate:

- ï Isolation means separating a person that is sick to prevent them from spreading the virus to others. People may be asked to self-isolate at home while they are being tested, while they recover, or they may be isolated in a healthcare setting if they need medical support to recover.
- ï **Anyone with or likely to have COVID-19 is required to self-isolate for at least ten (10) days after symptoms first appeared, and at least 1 day (24 hours) after fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medications, and other symptoms have improved. If you never had symptoms, then you must self-isolate for 10 days from the date of your positive test.**
- ï Anyone required to isolate may not leave their place of isolation or enter any other public or private place, except to receive necessary medical care. Furthermore, anyone in self-isolation is required to notify any close contacts of their potential exposure so they may self-quarantine.
- ï For the purpose of the [Isolation Order](#), someone with or likely to have COVID-19 is defined as a person who has:

- A positive lab test for COVID-19.
- Signs and symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days of being in close contact with a person who had or was believed to have had COVID-19: OR
- Been informed by a physician that they are likely to have COVID-19
- ï Any person who meets the above conditions must adhere to the requirements outlined in the [Home Isolation Instructions for People with Coronavirus-2019 \(COVID-19\) Infection \(Spanish\)](#) ([Khmer](#)) ([Tagalog](#)).

Although the risk of contracting Covid-19 at the SVC TechCon is negligible we strongly suggest that all attendees purchase travel insurance (if their employer does not currently provide coverage) with an *Epidemic Coverage Endorsement* that addresses the following situations:

- ï **Trip Cancellation**, if for example you must cancel your trip after being diagnosed with COVID-19.
- ï **Trip Interruption**, if for example during your trip you are specifically named and individually ordered to quarantine (not including generally or broadly applicable quarantines). See below for details.*
- ï **Travel Delay**, if for example you are denied boarding based on a suspicion that you are ill with an epidemic disease such as COVID-19.
- ï **Emergency Medical Care**, if for example you are diagnosed with COVID-19 and need to be hospitalized while traveling.
- ï **Emergency Transportation**, if for example you're diagnosed with an epidemic disease such as COVID-19 while you're traveling, and you require an emergency medical evacuation.

These policies are widely available from any number of companies that specialize in travel insurance.

Where can I get tested for COVID-19 in Long Beach?

There is a rapid testing site that is adjacent to the Long Beach Convention Center ([Carbon Health Urgent Care](#)). Current costs for a rapid Covid-19 test are approximately \$100-\$200 USD.

Will the vaccine mandate/72 hour negative Covid 19 test requirement apply to move-in and move-out?

No. During move-in/move-out activities the Exhibit Hall will be below the 1000 person threshold for vaccination and/or negative 72 hour Covid-19 testing, and masking will be the only requirement for labor. All full time Freeman employees will be vaccinated or in possession of a valid 72 hour negative Covid test certification. During the exhibition any Convention Center/Freeman personnel that our exhibitors or attendees encounter will be either vaccinated or have a valid negative Covid 19 test and be identified by a wrist band or some other prominent badging.

Travel to the US

Who can travel to the US?

On November 8, 2021, the US Government that the United States is open for air travelers from 33 countries including the UK, Europe, China, India, and Brazil, who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Check the [CDC website](#) and the [US State Department](#) for the latest information.

You should also be aware of all additional entry requirements, including up to date PCR or antigen tests and/or specific [origin country requirements](#) if you are visiting us from abroad. Check the [CDC website](#) for the latest information.

Can I enter the US via another country (if there is a travel ban on visitors from my country)?

This is an option you could consider. You need to spend a minimum of 14 days in a country that is currently open to travel to US, and then follow the guidelines for normal entry into the US. Even if you apply for an NIE we recommend having a plan like this in place as a backup.

Before you arrive (all participants):

Prepare your COVID-19 certification You must be able to present proof that you're fully vaccinated against COVID-19. We will accept WHO-approved vaccines that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA. The preliminary list of acceptable vaccines is as follows:

- ï Covishield COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Moderna (mRNA-1273) COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine
- ï Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine

This list may be updated as we approach the TechCon and the best source of information will be the [CDC website](#). You should complete your final vaccine by April 16, 2022, to be considered fully vaccinated for the 2022 SVC TechCon. COVID-19 vaccine certification will be via a secure upload to the SVC during the registration process and a

door check upon initial admission to the Long Beach Convention Center. Please check back here from early February 2022 for further details and/or updates.

- ï **Have you completed a self-assessment? Are you symptom free?**
 - If you have any symptoms, please stay at home. You can check your symptoms using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#)
- ï **Check your flight and travel arrangements:**
 - Ensure you've checked the requirements of your airline and the destinations from which you will be travelling.
- ï **Print your registration confirmation:**
 - If you're already registered, we'll email you registration confirmation. Please print this ahead of time and take it with you when you check in at the Convention Center. You can pick up badge holders and lanyards at the entrance.
- ï **Pack your masks:**
 - You must currently wear a face mask in all indoor public spaces in Long Beach. Regulations for mask wearing inside the Long Beach Convention Center exhibit hall and meeting rooms will be updated, based on the most up to date guidance and advice, nearer the event.
- ï **Bookmark this page and check back regularly for updates**
- ï **Final inspection** Before we open the doors, we'll conduct final inspections to make sure the venue is safe, clean, and ready for show time!

Before you arrive (exhibitors only):

- ï **Plan to provide hand sanitizers on your booth**
- ï **Designate a COVID-19 Compliance Officer:**
 - This is a staff member who is responsible for monitoring health and safety measures on your booth, and for liaising with the IMEX team as necessary.

Arriving at the 2022 SVC TechCon:

- ï **Please allow extra time for arrival on your first day (we advise 30 minutes), and carefully follow our signage designed to ease traffic flow:**

- To ease entrance to the show, exhibitors should plan to be on their booths at least 30 minutes in advance of the exhibition hall opening.
- ï **Recheck your symptoms:**
 - Complete a daily self-assessment using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#). If you have any symptoms, please do not come to the show.

- ï **Be prepared to show your COVID-19 certification or negative 72 hour test result:**
 - You must be able to present proof that you are fully vaccinated or have a negative 72 hour Covid 19 test result upon admission to the Long Beach Convention Center where the SVC TechCon will be held..
- ï **Wear your face mask:**
 - You must currently wear a face mask in all indoor public spaces in Long Beach. Regulations for mask wearing inside the Long Beach Convention Center, exhibit hall and meeting rooms will be updated, based on the most up to date guidance and advice, nearer the event.
- ï **Please comply with all CDC COVID-19 health and safety guidelines**

At the TechCon:

- ï **Wear your face mask:**
 - You must currently wear a face mask in all indoor public spaces in Long Beach. Regulations for mask wearing inside the Long Beach Convention Center exhibit hall and meeting rooms will be updated, based on the most up to date guidance and advice, nearer the event.
- ï **Follow all CDC guidelines:**
 - Wash your hands often, use our sanitizer stations, cover your cough or sneeze, and do not enter the show if you have any symptoms. If you start to feel unwell while you're at the show, please contact the nearest SVC staff member for assistance and directions.
- ï **Social distancing:**
 - We have widened aisles and education areas and added more seating to reduce crowding and improve traffic flow. All meeting rooms will be set up to comply with local distancing and capacity guidelines. Exhibitors will be taking every precaution on their booths to minimize crowding and transmission.

- ï **Enhanced cleaning:**
 - This includes electrostatic spray treatment every night in the areas around the Convention Center and exhibit hall to meet Global Biorisk Advisory Council® (GBAC) standards.
- ï **Constant monitoring:**
 - We'll continually monitor health and safety measures throughout the show, to ensure compliance and safety.
- ï **COVID-19 test for your flight home?**

- Rapid testing site that is close to the Long Beach Convention Center ([Carbon Health Urgent Care](#)). Current costs for a rapid Covid-19 test are approximately \$100-\$200 USD.

At the show (exhibitors only)

- ï Sanitize all meeting surfaces between appointments

Move in/move out:

- ï During move-in/move-out activities the Exhibit Hall will be below the 1000 person threshold for vaccination and/or negative 72 hour Covid-19 testing, and masking will be the only requirement for labor. All full time Freeman employees will be vaccinated or in possession of a valid 72 hour negative Covid test certification.