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## Real Estate, Infrastructure and Hospitality Practice Group Newsletter



# Health protection requirements for shopping centers and department stores to resume activities towards a safe return to the new normal in CDMX

As established in the "FIFTH NOTICE whereby the color of the epidemiological traffic light of Mexico City is announced," published in Mexico City's Official Gazette on July 3, 2020, shopping malls and department stores are allowed to operate at 30% capacity to return to economic activity, as of July 8, 2020.

In order to reduce the number of COVID-19 infections, the CDMX government issued the guidelines for health protection that must be complied with by shopping centers and department stores to resume activities towards a safe return to the new normality (the "**Guidelines**").

In general terms, the Guidelines for shopping centers and department stores provide 7 different categories: (i) Measures for people in establishments and work centers; (ii) Control of access and egress for establishments; (iii) Signs and posters with basic information; (iv) Cleaning of spaces and disinfection of surfaces; (v) Ventilation system; (vi) Staggering of hours and working days; and (vii) Measures for surveillance, supervision and identification of possible infections.

Some of the most relevant measures for every category are the following:

1. Measures for people in establishments and work centers. -

#### For users:

- » Require the correct use of masks. All persons who do not wear face masks or mouth masks may be denied entrance to malls and department stores.
- » Provide 70% alcohol-based gel to all visitors and guests entering the establishment.
- » Maintain a minimum distance of 1.5 meters between people.

#### For store or mall staff:

- » No spitting.
- » No touching the face with unclean hands, especially nose, mouth and eyes.
- » Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects in common use.
- 2. Control of access and egress to establishments.
- » Operate at 30% of capacity.
- » Establish a mandatory supervision filter at the entrance of the store.
- » If the establishment has 2 different accesses, one

will be exclusively for the entrance and the other access exclusively for the exit of the visitors.

- » Sanitizing mats or similar alternatives should be placed at the entrances to the shopping center.
- 3. Cleaning of spaces and disinfection of surfaces. -
- » Complete disinfection of the shopping center and department stores before opening, paying special attention to cleaning public spaces (parking, rest areas, bathrooms), loading docks and waste areas.
- » Payment of goods and services by electronic means will be encouraged.
- Regular cleaning and disinfection during opening hours of the main contact areas (toilets, floors, escalator handrails, door knobs, welcome desk, etc.)

#### 4. Ventilation system. -

- » Ensure the natural ventilation of spaces; open doors and windows.
- » The ventilation system must operate with a minimum 30% of recirculation towards the outside.
- » Among the ventilation strategies, the main ones

are: dilution, air flow patterns, pressurization, distribution and control of temperature and humidity, filtration and other strategies such as ultraviolet germicidal radiation (UVGI).

» In buildings with mechanical ventilation, maintain ventilation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### 5. Staggering of working hours and days. -

- » Allowed opening hours for shopping centers and department stores is from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Monday to Sunday.
- » During business days, any of the following is recommended: 4x10 scheme, reduction of business days, staggered schedules.

Learn more about these special temporary accounting criteria in the following links:

#### Lineamientos Centros Comerciales

#### Lineamientos Tiendas Departamentales

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#### Contact



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