

RECONVENING

There is an audible buzz that's been getting louder over the past few months...
Have you heard it?

It's the notable excitement of people meeting again with friends and colleagues in person at industry conferences and events after almost two years of interacting solely through screens. As we all know, video conferencing and Zoom fatigue is real across all industries at all levels and this ray of light that we are getting back together and resuming in person gatherings is welcomed by all.

Health and safety is the primary priority for meeting and event planners these days. By instituting specific event guidelines, safety protocols, and enforcing local and regional COVID precautionary requirements, we can increase comfort levels and safety for attendees and guests. Some meeting and event planners are using tools such as CLEAR or event apps to make it easy and convenient for attendees to provide negative COVID tests or proof of vaccination in order to attend. Some of these apps also allow for touchless check in which provides another layer of safety.

AMS Event Services has recently resumed in-person client conferences and events and we are pretty excited about it. Planning for health and safety is at the top of our "to-do" list, so we are working closely with our clients, venues/hotels and outside vendors to ensure that meeting and event staff are fully prepared and are providing the needed safety and health precautionary measures including:

- Setting sessions with maximum social distancing and spacing
- Adding food/beverage barriers and staff to serve meals to attendees
- Using outdoor spaces for social events when available and appropriate
- Sanitizing of all communal audio/visual equipment - microphones, podiums, etc.
- Providing hand sanitizer to all attendees throughout the meeting or event
- Ability to use a virtual meeting place to accommodate a hybrid meeting format
- Utilizing colored wrist bands to indicate level of comfort with physical interaction (red = say hi but keep your distance, yellow = I'm fine with a fist pump, green = handshakes or hugs are OK with me)

Our event services professionals are here to help and guide your organization to resume in person meetings and events. Our team is available to provide a variety of services including:

- Negotiating with hotels and venues to help mitigate any contractual obligations based on reduced attendance or increased need for distancing
- Creating health and safety plans and guides
- Communication plans to account for any changing COVID conditions to keep attendees informed
- Provide onsite management and guidance to assist with implementing health and safety protocols