

IBTTA Technology Summit in San Diego is ON! COVID-19 Fact Sheet

March 6, 2020

The fact sheet in brief:

- The **IBTTA Technology Summit IS ON!** We're moving forward as planned.
- According to the CDC, for most of the American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low.
- According to hotel officials, there have been no confirmed cases of novel coronavirus at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront.
- IBTTA wants you to be safe and have peace of mind and supports whatever decision you make regarding attendance at the San Diego meeting.

WHAT IBTTA IS DOING

IBTTA is holding the annual [Technology Summit](#) at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, April 1-4, 2020. This meeting is **HAPPENING!**

As we prepare to meet in San Diego, the health and safety of our staff, members, and meeting attendees is our top priority and we are working to ensure that our response to COVID-19 is based on facts. Here is what you need to know.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is [responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel \(new\) coronavirus](#) that was first detected in China and which has now been detected in 70 locations internationally, including in the United States. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").

Currently IBTTA is:

- Adhering to the guidance and recommended safety measures issued by the [World Health Organization](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC), as well as state and local health organizations.
- Encouraging attendees to take common-sense precautions and follow [CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of illness](#).

IBTTA takes COVID-19 seriously and continues to monitor the situation and update our policies and meeting plans as appropriate.

WHAT THE CDC SAYS ABOUT THE CURRENT RISK ASSESSMENT

(From CDC [Situation Summary](#) updated March 3, 2020)

- For most of the American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low.
- People in communities where ongoing community spread with the virus that causes COVID-19 has been reported are at elevated, though still relatively low risk of exposure.
- Healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19 are at elevated risk of exposure.
- Close contacts of persons with COVID-19 also are at elevated risk of exposure.
- Travelers returning from affected [international locations](#) where community spread is occurring also are at elevated risk of exposure.

CDC has developed [guidance to help in the risk assessment and management](#) of people with potential exposures to COVID-19.

WHAT CALIFORNIA IS DOING (STATEMENT FROM CDPH WEBSITE)

“The [California Department of Public Health](#) (the Public Health Department) understands there are concerns about novel coronavirus, and understandably so. Although coronaviruses are a group of viruses that aren’t new, this is a new type of coronavirus and we are still learning about it. However, **the health risk to the general public in California remains low.** While COVID-19 has a high transmission rate, it has a low mortality rate. From the international data we have, of those who have tested positive for COVID-19, approximately 80 percent do not exhibit symptoms that would require hospitalization. California is carefully assessing the situation as it evolves.”

WHAT THE HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT IS DOING

The following information is from the hotel’s letter to clients:

“Our hotel takes all forms of infectious disease seriously. We are closely monitoring updates on novel coronavirus (COVID-19) from the World Health Organization and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and responding based on the best advice of medical professionals and public health authorities. Currently, there have been no confirmed cases of novel coronavirus at Hilton San Diego Bayfront, or any cases affiliated with our hotels in this market.”

“Hilton has established protocols in place for responding to viral outbreaks and similar incidents. Among other steps, the hotel has installed hand sanitizer stations in public areas throughout our hotel. Additionally, our housekeeping staff is performing enhanced cleaning of frequently touched areas in the hotel.”

WHAT CAN THE PUBLIC DO TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?

To help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases the CDC recommends:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Below are some important resources that you may wish to consult as you make plans to join us in San Diego. We continue to closely review all guidance from global, federal, state and local health authorities to conduct successful meetings and protect the health and safety of the IBTTA community.

- [Daily Situation Reports from the World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)
- [How Coronavirus Spreads – US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [Prevention and Treatment – CDC](#)
- [Guarding Against Stigma Related to Coronavirus – CDC](#)
- [Information for Travelers – CDC](#)