



# STUNT DEPARTMENT

## LEVEL 3 COVID-19 GUIDELINES

September 2021

### **Please Note:**

- *At Level 3 there is no allowance for Close Proximity Work (closer than 1m).*
- *Only low risk stunt work is achievable at Level 3. Avoid any work that may put additional pressure on hospitals and the health system. Please discuss any scripted stunt work thoroughly with Production and Safety, and if necessary ScreenSafe and WorkSafe.*

### **Before you work:**

- All crew **MUST** fill in a COVID-19 Health Declaration.
- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, **do not come to work**. Please get tested.

### **Introduction to Department undertakings:**

- Pre-Production tasks – remote
- Pre-Production tasks – on site / at workshop/studio
- Liaison with Director and other departments in regards to creative and logistical requirements
- Crew and cast interactions / communications
- Management/coordination of stunt team, stunt performers and equipment
- Liaison with other departments prior to and during production

### **Department Bubbles**

- Off Set Stunt Department bubble (remote preparation).
- Off Set Stunt Department bubble (production base/studio/workshop)
- On Set Stunt Department bubble (Unit/Tech base only)
- On Set Stunt Department bubble (Unit/Tech base AND On Set)
- On Set Department HODs/Department Liaison bubble

### **PPE Requirements:**

- At Delta Alert Level 3, face coverings are strongly recommended. And it would be expected that most productions will require them as part of their H&S plan. They are mandated by the MoH for public facing businesses and work.

### **Required Physical Distancing Requirements:**

- The general rule of 2 metres applies at all times.
- If in a Controlled Environment, maintain at least 1 metre physical distancing between crew.
- No close contact work (less than 1m) is permitted at Level 3.
- When interacting with any public or unknown persons, crew must maintain the minimum of 2 metres physical distancing at all times.

### **Contact Tracing:**

- A Government Tracer App QR-code poster must be displayed at all work sites.
- All crew must sign-in when arriving and out when departing a work site.
- All entry and exit points should be controlled and monitored.
- All workers should keep a log of non-worksite locations (i.e. stores, etc.) and interactions (meeting suppliers, location owners, etc.) they have during working hours.
- All workers are recommended to keep note of their interactions outside of work hours (whilst on a job).
- All crew or approved site visitors must sign a COVID-19 Declaration before starting work or visiting a work site.

## Department Specific Guidance

**Stunt crew should be aware of and trained to work under the specific alert level in operation prior to commencing work, including the correct use of PPE.**

- Stunt crew to work remotely as far as practicable.
- Production / inter-departmental meetings to be remote as far as practicable.
- Physical production meetings to be carried out with physical distancing of at least 1 meter. If possible, particularly if in a confined space, a 10 person limit is recommended. Use of a face covering is strongly recommended.
- Physical distancing of two metres wherever possible between workstations in offices if work cannot be done remotely.
- Stunt crew to be split into smaller work groups/bubbles where possible (i.e. prep vs. shoot crew or on-set vs. off-set crew).
- Liaise with Production and Health & Safety in regards to contact tracing, PPE and hand/workspace/equipment sanitiser requirements for your department.
- *For larger productions, a specific Stunt Department Role may need to be created to document, administer and track all of the contact tracing, PPE and hand/workspace/equipment sanitiser requirements for your department.*
- *Stunt Department crew charged with collecting and sorting Crew Declarations and other personal data should be adequately briefed on the Privacy Act and the need for confidentiality and secure storage of such info.*
- Consider specific production requirements in regards to crewing in order to ensure physical distancing and sanitation.
- During periods of peak shooting in our industry, it is common for stunt performers to be involved in several productions at one time. Please discuss this with each production's stunt coordinator to assess if the number of work bubbles you are involved in is creating an unnecessary heightened risk.
- The biggest impact to the Stunt Department in achieving these safe work practices is the increased time needed to complete tasks safely and hygienically.
- Establish protocols for cleaning of crew clothing or costumes, be it at home, by costume department or supplied by production or stunt department.
- Showers may need to be available for training sessions.
- On set and off set bubbles to be maintained wherever practicable.

### Personal Hygiene Requirements and Measures

- Any worker who feels unwell must not come to work, if unwell at work they must go home.
- If a worker displays any of the symptoms of COVID-19, please call Healthline immediately (0800 358 5453) or your doctor. Production and the Health & Safety Departments must also be notified. And all close contact workers to be identified.
- If a person or persons are confirmed or probable cases of COVID-19, site closure(s) should be considered. This decision should be made on the advice of a public health officials based on information on the extent of the exposure.
- At Delta Alert Level 3, face coverings are strongly recommended. And it would be expected that most productions will require them as part of their H&S plan. They are mandated by the MoH for public facing businesses and work.
- Please wash/sanitise your hands upon arrival at a work site.
- A strict personal hygiene & hand washing/sanitising regime must be observed in line with the ScreenSafe and Ministry of Health guidelines.
- Personal work stations to be cleaned/sanitised each day.
- In accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines, PPE (gloves and masks) should be available.

### Work Space Hygiene

#### On and off set

- Hand sanitising stations should be readily available at production office/location/stunt base.

- PPE (gloves, masks) to be available.
- Laptop/screen/equipment cleaning products should be readily available at production office/location/stunt base.
- Consider workspace layout, avoid face to face desks, and space desks 2 meters apart where possible. Engineered barriers are necessary where this separation is not practicable.
- Personal equipment to be used only by one person as much as possible (i.e. laptops, printers, scanners, stationery, etc.).
- Common work surfaces in production office or stunt base to be cleaned regularly (i.e. door handles, shared photocopiers, taps, light switches, etc.).
- Regular cleaning of computer terminals and phones.
- Regular aeration of office space/truck, open windows when possible. Avoid recycling air.
- Air conditioning should be run on fresh air setting, not on recirculate.
- Sanitise surfaces & mop floors at the end of each day where required.
- Sanitising stations on location available outside of communal facilities (i.e. portaloos).
- Stairs should be used in preference to lifts.
- No visitors to site. Only workers involved in the project to enter any locations or work sites.

#### **Kitchen & Catering**

- Stagger lunch where possible and apply physical distancing measures.
- No open snacks, fruit, shared food. Consider lunch box style lunches to be prepared. Where appropriate, consider a subsidy for workers who are required to bring own lunch.
- All communal cutlery & crockery must be sterilised in dishwasher.
- Communal kitchen items to be sanitised before & after use.
- Compostable cutlery & crockery to be used if sterilisation is not possible.

#### **Toilets, Showers & Drying Rooms**

- Physical distancing rules apply to the use of shared facilities, including toilets, shower and drying rooms.
- Sanitising stations on location available outside of communal facilities (i.e. portaloos).
- If numbers require then add additional toilet facilities, i.e. portaloos
- Hygiene posters and signage should be clearly visible in shared spaces like kitchens, toilets, entrances and exits, etc.

#### **Interaction with Other Departments, Suppliers, Cast & Extras**

##### **Meetings**

- Stunt or inter-departmental meetings to be remote or on digital platforms as far as practicable. Or hold meetings in open areas wherever possible.
- PPE should be available for essential inter-departmental meetings.
- Physical distancing to be maintained on essential inter-departmental meetings and work (i.e. wardrobe fittings, pre-production meetings, tech recces, etc.). Use of a face covering is strongly recommended.
- Main Unit, 2<sup>nd</sup> Unit and Splinter Unit should if practicable be treated as completely different units with limited physical interactions.
- Reduce physical interaction with other departments as far as reasonably practicable.
- Interactions with other crew, cast and public must be as per physical distancing protocols.

##### **Travel**

- No communal travel. One person per vehicle only, unless in a household bubble together.
- Shared vehicles should not be used outside work. Vehicles should be cleaned prior to and after used.

##### **Set Protocol**

- Sets should be treated as closed sets, with essential crew on set only.
- Set congestion is a major hurdle in achieving physical distancing. Consult with all departments to achieve best practice staggered on-set interaction by each department.
- AD's, Location and H&S Departments to monitor numbers on set as well as entry/exit points.
- For enclosed shooting sets, please ensure regular aeration, open windows when possible. It is recommend that crew are allowed time during the day to get fresh air.

##### **Props, Costumes & Make Up**

- Fitting of harnesses and padding should be done by the individual stunt performer themselves.

- Stunt performers are required to dress themselves, do their own make up, etc. as required, but under the supervision of the applicable department.
- Physical props should be sanitised prior to being given to stunt performers and after return. All handovers should be contactless handovers.

#### **Equipment**

- Hands to be washed/sanitised prior to and after handling stunt equipment, radios, batteries, earpieces.
- Stunt equipment like mats and harnesses, etc. should be regularly cleaned, especially in between talent and always at the end of each day.
- Distribution of communal equipment (i.e. radios) and/or paperwork to be done via a separate distribution desk on location, with sanitising equipment available prior to pick up.
- Drop off or replacement of radios/batteries/accessories to be in a separate designated area isolated from clean radios. This equipment MUST be sanitised before reuse and distribution.
- No reuse of headsets/mics. New crew member, new headset/mic.

#### **Call Sheets and Sides**

- As far as practicable, a paperless production should be the goal. I.e. no handing out of physical paperwork unless essential.
- Digital call sheets and paperwork should be used whenever practicable. If not, named paper sides, call sheets, etc. to be distributed by a designated AD or Production person, i.e. no piles of sides/call sheets to search through.

#### **Cast & Stunt Performers**

- COVID-19 information to be distributed to cast prior to their arrival on set.
- All cast/stunt performers must fill in a COVID-19 Health Declaration prior to work.
- Consider number of cast/stunt performers and their health (elderly, etc.) and the ability for physical distancing both on and off-set before commencing production.
- Face masks/coverings and PPE shall be made available to all cast.
- Cast/stunt performers may be asked to use a face covering whenever practicable. Some productions may require this as part of their H&S plan.
- All cast/stunt performers to wash/sanitise hands on arrival at location/studio.
- A COVID-19 induction and health check on arrival by a competent person, i.e., registered nurse, paramedic or the safety officer.
- Fitting of harnesses and padding must be done by the cast member themselves. Stunt crew should be on hand for advice if needed.
- Whenever possible, a specific cast or stunt performer area must be set up with physical distancing observed.
- Whenever possible, one AD should be assigned to key cast and another AD assigned to stunt performers.
- Personal bags or items should be left in a designated area.
- Each cast member or stunt performer may want a water proof wet bags for their personal items to travel to set. Only 3rd AD or cast/stunt performers to carry this, and only cast/stunt performers is to put things in & take things out.
- No phones on set, no one else to handle cast/stunt performer personal belongings.
- Disposable cast/stunt performers water bottles are recommended. Cast/stunt performers to handle their own food – no double handling.
- ADs to sign in/out cast at the start and end of the working day. Contactless is preferred so you should consider using electronic systems if practicable.

#### **Close Proximity Bubbles**

- There is no allowance for Close Proximity work or scripted action (less than 1m) at Level 3.

#### **Extras**

- Use of extras is not recommended as it can be difficult to apply the required risk minimisation and control. In some instances it may be possible if strict control measures can be achieved.

#### **Scheduling**

- Ensure that the shoot schedule reflects additional time required to facilitate required physical distancing guidelines.
- Ensure the shoot schedule reflects fatigue levels and the wellness of crew.

- Consider staggered calls and rolling lunches to maintain appropriate physical distancing.
- Sufficient time must be allocated for a thorough H&S/COVID-19 site induction at the start of the day, prior to every stunt and at each new location.
- Crew may need additional time for gear cleaning/sanitising between locations moves and at the end of the day, so you may need to allow time for this.