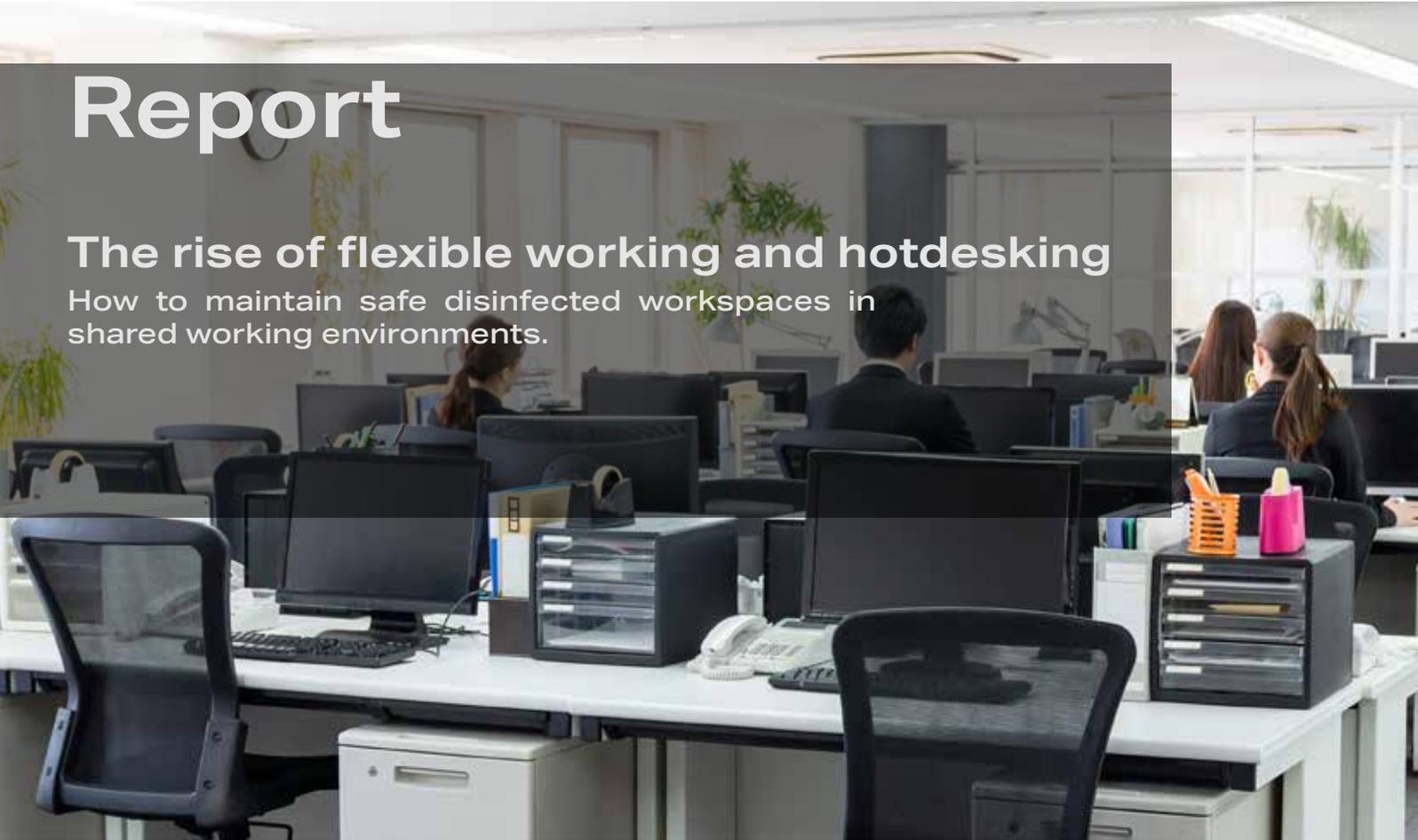




# Report

## The rise of flexible working and hotdesking

How to maintain safe disinfected workspaces in shared working environments.



*PNE Controls are an authorised distributor of UV Technology Global products, including the Signify UV-C disinfection and OEM ranges*



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UV Technology Global are the first specialist UV-C Value Added Partner (VAIP) for global leaders in lighting, Signify.

**Unit 6 Mansfield Network Centre,  
Millennium Business Park,  
Mansfield,  
NG19 7JZ**

**01623 625982**

**[www.pnecontrols.co.uk](http://www.pnecontrols.co.uk)**

**[pne@pnecontrols.co.uk](mailto:pne@pnecontrols.co.uk)**

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# Changing Work Practises post Covid



**20%** worked from home  
1-3 days per week before  
Covid-19

**54%** want to work from home  
1-3 days per week after  
restrictions end

**16%** do not want to come  
back to the office at all

*Source: Global Workplace Analytics May 2020,  
Iometrics and Global Workplace Analytics*

As lockdown restrictions are lifted and workers are encouraged back to the office there are strong signs that many workers will continue to work remotely at least a few days per week.

Many companies such as John Lewis Partnership and Metro Bank have already stated that a 'hybrid' or 'blended' working model will become permanent post Covid.

## What will this mean for office use?

In the long term this will leave many companies with 40% less utilisation of office space.

This gives employers the opportunity to rethink office space.

Perhaps changing to an open plan activity-based workspace.

Ultimately many companies may also decide to reduce office space to save on the overheads. The cost of property is often cited as the second highest cost for companies.



**Multiple surveys and reports are identifying a future trend for downsizing office space in the long term following the crisis**

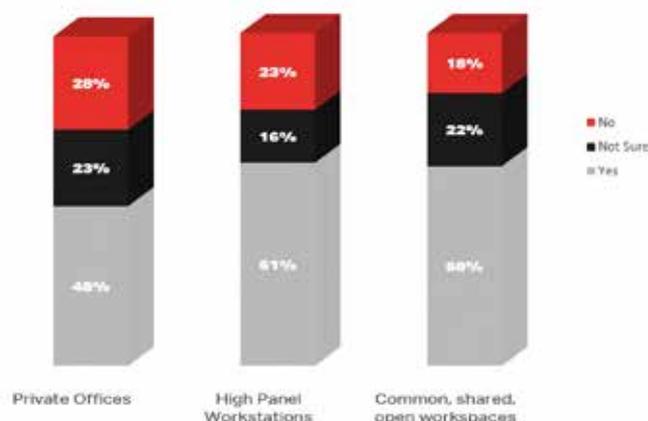
*Source: People Management August 2020. Exclusive data on returning staff to the office: how do you compare?  
Source: Robert Walters, Returning to the new world of work. A practical guide for business*

## Hot-desking to become the new normal

This will mean that many employees will be required to 'hot desk' when at the office.

Whilst generally considered negatively by employees pre-Covid, the majority surveyed by Global Workplace Analytics said they would give up a permanent desk to maintain flexible working.

Would you give up your assigned workspace in exchange for an unassigned workspace in order to work-from-home in the future?



Source: Global Workplace Analytics May 2020. Iometrics and Global Workplace Analytics

## Is hot-desking safe?



Studies have found that as many as two-fifths of UK office workers have said catching Covid-19 as a direct result of being back in contact with colleagues is what worries them the most about returning to offices.

One of the big issues with sharing workspaces is the potential for the spread of viruses including Covid-19. Even once the population is vaccinated there will be an ongoing awareness of how viruses spread and concerns over using shared equipment.

A study by Velocity SmartTechnology found 37% of workers said they were most fearful of contracting Covid-19 through contamination of shared office devices and equipment.

Some employees are requesting a monthly decontamination deep clean as part of their offices cleaning regime.

Source: Computer Weekly, April 2021. Almost half of UK office workers fear return to offices

## Fast, effective solutions to disinfect workspaces >>

UV-C offers an effective solution to eradicating viruses from surfaces without the use of chemicals. Whilst UV-C is not a new technology, due to the pandemic its effectiveness at inactivating viruses is more important than ever.

Using high intensity UV-C, up to 99.99% of micro-organisms can be inactivated in a matter of seconds.

Testing undertaken by Signify and Boston University, has validated the effectiveness of using UV-C light to completely inactivate the SARS-CoV-2, the virus which causes Covid-19.

### What is UV-C and how does it work?

Ultraviolet light in the C spectrum (UV-C) is energy-rich light with a wavelength of 200 – 280 nanometres (nm).

UV-C light at an optimal wavelength of 253.7nm penetrates the cell wall of the micro-organism. The high energy photons of the UV-C light are absorbed by the cell proteins and DNA / RNA.

UV-C damages the protein structure causing metabolic disruption.

DNA is chemically altered so organisms can no longer replicate. The cell is no longer capable of multiplying and surviving, therefore preventing infection.

UV-C light is very versatile and can be used for disinfecting liquids, surfaces, on objects and the air.

The technology can be utilised in a number of different products from air conditioning systems, battons fixed to ceilings and portable hand-held devices.



## What are the options for UV-C in office spaces?

There are a range of UV-C products for use in office spaces, the most suitable depends on the size of area to disinfect and the use of the space whilst decontamination takes place.

Air units can be used throughout the working day whereas the surface disinfection options are to be used when the office is empty.



**Upper Air Ceiling Mounted Unit**

Designed to be installed on false ceilings for the disinfection of air.

Optimized for low ceiling heights, the UV-C rays are distributed at device level and above.

This allows for the disinfection of the air in a space, while day-to-day business activities can continue.



**Upper Air Wall Mounted Unit**

Designed to be installed on walls for the disinfection of air.

Allows quiet disinfection of air while business activity continues.

Specific reflectors and the louvre design control the beam of UV-C rays to distribute at the device level and above, where people would not be present.



**Surface Disinfection Batten**

Fixed to the ceiling for wide area surface decontamination.

Inactivates 99% of SARS-CoV-2 virus on a surface with an exposure time of 6 seconds.

Environmentally friendly - no ozone emissions during or after use.

Complies with applicable regulations.



**UVT Light Sabre**

Portable hand-held device designed for desk tops and hard to reach areas.

The user slowly passes the device over the contaminated area, allowing the energy from the high output UV-C emitter to decontaminate all surfaces.

A 99.9% reduction SARS-CoV-2 virus in under 2 seconds (based on 30cm distance, covering an A4 area).

**Find out more about UV-C for disinfection**



**Contact PNE Controls to discuss your requirements**



01623 625982



pnecontrols.co.uk



pne@pnecontrols.co.uk

## **Who are PNE Controls?**

We are a dynamic, modern electrical control company, producing high quality bespoke electrical design and manufacture.

Manufacture is carried out to the highest standard to ensure customer satisfaction and as a registered member of the ECA our company achieves the highest industry certification across all aspects of electrical and electrotechnical design, installation, inspection, testing and monitoring giving you total confidence in our company as our work is guaranteed by the UK's largest trade association.

PNE Controls work in partnership with all the major electrical component manufacturers ensuring all parts are sourced through authorised manufacturer routes ensuring only quality components are supplied with full manufacturer warranties and support.

## **Our Core Values**



Knowledge



Trust



Evolving



Collaborative



Honesty