

At the 3rd July online briefing, the following topics were discussed:

- 1 Thermal Screening: Member MJ described the development of equipment to combine Thermal screening with facial recognition. This equipment which is being trialled in a building, can be used to identify possible Covid cases by reading temperatures and sending out an alert along with a facial recognition. If used in places such as shopping centres it would be able to prevent a Covid case entering and keep occupants inside safe. TS can be connected to BMS and/or security systems.
- 2 India: Update from member VR in India reported that Indian Railways have their own employee hospitals but that these have been made available for others during the Covid crisis. Also, that Tata had been using their expertise to help with rapid development of hospital equipment (like the F1 Teams did with masks in the UK).
- 3 Transport report: There was a discussion about disinfecting mass transport. There has been a particular problem with isolating bus drivers from passengers and unfortunately there have been many cases of bus drivers contracting Covid. TfL decided to install a protective screen and allow all passengers to enter via the middle and rear doors but not the front doors. Underground trains go through a major cleaning/disinfection process at the end of each journey.
- 4 The use of UV as a germicide has benefits in ventilation systems but requires care where there might be personal exposure. It is not clear if walk through UV systems have safety features. There was also a question of UV causing corrosion but TfL have checked and found this not to be a problem for the materials they use. Although UV has been known about for a long time – 1877, Downes and Blunt, was the first technical report on UV as a means of killing bacteria (and viruses) it has not had much application in the UK, although it is much used elsewhere.
- 5 A member described the use of anti-microbial coatings based on silver additives. This type of coating has been shown to be very effective against other viruses although not yet specifically with Covid.

For information, please contact.....

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