

Coronavirus Statement (SARS-CoV-2 aka COVID-19)

The coronavirus has been dominating the news all over the world since February 2020, and in early 2022 the situation continues to evolve at a rapid pace, bringing with it a slew of different regulations around the globe.

Bechtle has branches in 14 European countries: Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Great Britain, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Poland. Our offices in these countries are sales units. Bechtle does not maintain its own production facilities. We are following ongoing developments regarding the coronavirus outbreak very closely and are also in touch with all relevant health authorities to stay on top of the latest insights and recommendations. In Germany, which is our home market, we also take into consideration recommendations issued by the Robert Koch Institute when determining what measures to take in response to the outbreak.

The topmost priority of all our coronavirus-related action is the health and wellbeing of our employees, as well as our ability to fulfil our contracts with customers. Any and all measures we take are aimed to minimise disruptions to our business. To this end, we are closely coordinating our efforts with our individual business units and locations to ensure a consistent approach to how we handle cases of returning holiday makers and at-risk groups, among other things. In addition to ongoing efforts to sensitise employees, bolster hygiene and enforce related rules, the measures we take also include providing access to a curated list of reputable information sources to ensure a current news stream. All pandemic-related plans of action are regularly reviewed and adapted as needed by Bechtle's multidisciplinary coronavirus crisis management team.

We have also taken the necessary measures that will temporarily enable the entire staff of individual departments and locations to work from home. Our central IT organisation is also able to reliably keep IT operations running from remote locations. We are also in close contact with our suppliers to prevent disruptions to our customers. We are positive that our excellent partnerships with all major IT manufacturers, many of which date back several decades, will also help us minimise the impact of existing bottlenecks in our supply chains. We also are currently making good use of our ability to stockpile goods at our own logistics hubs in Germany and Switzerland.

Given the highly dynamic situation of the outbreak and its grip on the supply of IT products, we are at this point unable to forecast the medium to long-term effects on our business.

We will review this statement regularly and update it as necessary.