



## Health & Safety Plan

To promote the safety of everyone attending ICMCTF, we will monitor the guidance and requirements of the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), [State of California](#), the [California Department of Public Health](#), and the [World Health Organization](#) regarding COVID-19 safety practices. Therefore, this Attendee Safety Plan may change from time to time through the last day of ICMCTF in May 2022.

The Town & Country Resort has implemented a [variety of new protocols and elevated practices](#), in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and keeping with our high standards of cleanliness and commitment to providing excellent service. They have also made a few adjustments to the services, amenities, and facilities available during your stay.

**IMPORTANT:** In light of events surrounding COVID-19, this is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the risks incident to attending ICMCTF. Even with every reasonable precaution to keep you safe as outlined for you by the CDC, ICMCTF cannot fully eliminate all risks of harm to attendees or guarantee their safety, especially from risks posed by COVID-19 or its variant strains. **Ultimately, you are responsible for your own safety.**

### Deciding to Attend:

- Anyone having underlying COVID-19-related risk factors should not attend.
- Anyone exhibiting any symptoms or signs of sickness or who has been in contact with known positive COVID-19 cases should not attend.
- Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days from the start of ICMCTF 2022 should not attend.
- Anyone who refuses to meet the requirements listed below should not attend.

### WHAT WE ARE DOING FOR YOUR SAFETY:

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- **Be Prepared to Provide Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination or Negative COVID:** Each attendee may be asked to provide either their COVID-19 vaccination card (physical or photo) and ID (physical) or a negative COVID-19 test (physical or photo) and ID (physical) at registration. All on-site ICMCTF staff, contractors, and vendors must be in compliance with this rule, as well. No exceptions.
  - If providing proof of vaccination, the vaccine card (physical or photo) must show both the first and second dose of Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Mixed vaccines will also be accepted (one dose of Moderna and one dose of Pfizer). Vaccines approved by the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)/CDC](#) will also be accepted. Please note that your final vaccine must be administered at least two weeks prior to the first day of ICMCTF 2022, May 22, 2022. You must also show your ID (physical).
  - If providing COVID-19 test results, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).
- **Face Masks Recommended:** Masks are currently optional; however, ICMCTF 2022 recommends wearing them in larger group settings. In addition, you should be prepared to wear a face mask during all ICMCTF sessions and events if guidelines should change. An [acceptable mask](#) is made of at least two layers of breathable fabric or hospital grade material; fully covers the nose, nostrils, and mouth; fits firmly under the chin; and fits snugly, but comfortably against the side of the face.

- **Social Distancing:** Be mindful of the social distancing protocols and compliant with all posted instructions and signage.
- **Emergency Contact Number:** All attendees are required to provide a working mobile phone number to AVS in case ICMCTF is notified by any government or local health department that contact tracing is required.
- **Waiver Form:** All Registrants are required to Review and accept the ICMCTF/AVS *Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability* statement prior to registering.

### **ICMCTF AND AVS ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY:**

Please review the following ICMCTF and AVS Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement. You must accept the statement details outlined in order to be able to complete your registration. If you have any questions about the statement, please contact [events@avs.org](mailto:events@avs.org).

**ICMCTF and AVS Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement:** By checking the “I Accept” button below, I, on my behalf and on behalf of each individual included in this registration (“Registrant”), acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that we may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by accessing The 48<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Metallurgical Coatings and Thin Films (ICMCTF 2022) (“Event”) in-person and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. As such, I accept the terms of this Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability. Registrants understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, the American Vacuum Society, the Town & Country Resort, their respective employees, agents, contractors, volunteers, and other Event participants. Registrants agree to abide by [all preventative measures \(collectively “Measures”\)](#) put in place by ICMCTF and AVS, the Town & Country Resort, their respective employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers at any time prior to and during the Event including, including, but not limited to, providing proof of COVID-19 vaccination and or negative PCR or Antigen test, wearing an [acceptable mask](#), if requested, remaining at least six feet away from other Event participants, and promptly notifying AVS if any registrant experiences symptoms of COVID-19 during the Event. Registrants acknowledge that personal failure to follow these Measures may result in being removed from the Event and all related activities without any refund or reimbursement. Finally, Registrants acknowledge that no promises, representations, or affirmations of fact were made to me concerning the safety or danger associated with traveling to the Event or participating in any activity or interaction related to or associated with the Event.

I have reviewed and accept the ICMCTF and AVS Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Statement

### **ENTRY & SYMPTOM EVALUATIONS:**

- Signage will appear at any entrance alerting attendees that entry will be denied if they have:
  - been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last fourteen (14) days,
  - exhibited symptoms of COVID-19 in the last fourteen (14) days, or
  - had contact with a person that has or is suspected of having COVID-19 within the past fourteen (14) days and have not completed a quarantine protocol, or
  - not provided proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative PCR or Antigen test (as noted above).
  - refused to wear a mask when requested at the Town & Country Resort or any facility hosting an ICMCTF event or meeting.
  - Attendees must adhere to the requirements of any such signage and any directives from ICMCTF/AVS staff given onsite during the event. Failure to do so could result in the denial of entry or removal from the venue altogether without refund
- **ICMCTF/AVS reserves the right to deny such entry to anyone seeking admittance or to remove them from the venue should they present with any COVID-19 like symptoms or refuse to adhere to the policies above. No refunds will be given, and such conduct may disqualify such individuals from attending future ICMCTF Meetings.**

**ISOLATION AREA:**

- There will be a designated isolation area for individuals experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms at registration. You will be asked to remain in this area until you have secured an appointment with a testing facility, at which time you will be directed out of the building.
- ICMCTF will assist those presenting COVID-19-like symptoms to exit safely.
- A negative COVID-19 test must be presented at the Registration Desk for consideration to re-enter. Upon review, you may be granted approval to return to the meeting. No At-Home Test Results will be accepted. [Click here for a list of nearby testing sites.](#)

In addition, ICMCTF will be implementing the following safety measures in addition to the enhanced Town & Country Resort cleaning protocols in each meeting area:

**ALL AREAS:**

- Handshaking, hugging, or other unnecessary person-to-person contact will be discouraged between all participants.
- ICMCTF will remind participants through appropriate signage and/or verbal communications.

**REGISTRATION AREA:**

- Requirement of pre-registration in order to minimize lines in Registration Area
- Plexiglas Barriers will be used between registration staff and attendees as part of entry screening and registration
- Limited Conference handouts or material bins

**SESSION ROOMS:**

- Sanitizing kits in every session room
- Presentation Area sanitizing wipe-down between presenters
- Socially distanced seating where feasible
- Hand sanitizer stations in session hallways/entryways

**EXHIBITS POSTERS/RECEPTIONS:**

- Socially distanced layout where feasible
- Hand sanitizer stations throughout the room.
- Additional F&B stations where feasible

## **OTHER RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES:**

### **TRAVELING TO ATTEND:**

- **U.S. Travel Restrictions:** Look for current restrictions on entering the US from different regions on the [CDC travel website](#).
- **Visa Requirements:** Depending on your country of departure, you may need to apply for a [National Interest Exception](#) for travel to the U.S.
- **Your Country of Departure's Restrictions and Quarantine Requirements:** Your country may have its own vaccination or testing policies for departure and/or return. It is your responsibility to check your local government agencies for any vaccination, testing, or quarantine requirements.
- **Airline Policies:** Check with your airline to make sure you understand their policies and requirements.
- **Return COVID Testing:** For those attendees who need to take a COVID test prior to returning home, ICMCTF 2022 has arranged to have a COVID Testing Center at the Town & Country Resort Hotel and Convention Center. The COVID Testing Center will be located in the California 4 Room of the Town & Country Resort Hotel and Convention Center near the ICMCTF 2022 Registration Area in the Town & Country Foyer.

**All attendees must order and prepay for testing at least 4 days before the testing so we can ensure the availability of the appropriate staffing and testing supplies on site.**

When ordering your test you **MUST** enter **ICMCTF** under the event name and provide payment for which ever test you select. Once you have selected and paid for your test, please go to the COVID Testing Center during the hours listed below.

If you have selected a test that takes more time to process, please be sure to test early in the week. Every traveler is personally responsible to test within the timeframe that meets their countries testing requirements, as every country have very different requirements. Just as an example, some countries require a rapid antigen test within 48 hours of their flight time, while others require the test within 24 hours. Those who require a PCR test within 72 hours of their flight, must test at least 60 hours before the flight to allow necessary processing time.

**Order Your Test Here:** <https://inspirediagnostics.com/on-site-travel-testing/>

#### **COVID Testing Hours (California,4):**

Monday, May 23-Thursday, May 26: 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Friday, May 27: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

For any questions on testing, please email Lindsay Pacino at [lindsay.pacino@inspirediagnostics.com](mailto:lindsay.pacino@inspirediagnostics.com) and please reference the testing for ICMCTF.

## **QUICK FACTS/Q&A:**

### **1. By what date do I need to be vaccinated by in order to use to gain entrance into ICMCTF 2022?**

As of December 17, 2021, participants are considered fully vaccinated two weeks (14 days) after they have completed either the second dose in a two-dose series (e.g., Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca) or after a single dose of a one-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson & Johnson). Mixed vaccines will also be accepted (e.g., one dose of Moderna and one dose of Pfizer). Participants should complete their final vaccine two weeks prior to the start date of ICMCTF, May 22, 2022.

### **2. Which vaccines will ICMCTF accept?**

We will accept WHO-approved vaccines that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA. The current list of acceptable vaccines is as follows:

- Covishield COVID-19 vaccine
- Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine
- Covaxin COVID-19 vaccine
- Moderna (mRNA-1273) COVID-19 vaccine
- Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine
- Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine
- Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine

This list may be updated as we approach ICMCTF 2022 and the best source of information will be the [CDC website](#).

### **3. Which COVID tests are accepted by ICMCTF and what is the timeline?**

If providing COVID-19 test results, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).

### **4. Will I also need to provide proof of a COVID-19 booster shot? No, not at this time.**

### **5. Can I attend the ICMCTF 2022 with proof of a negative COVID-19 test or with proof of COVID-19 antibodies?**

As the regulations currently stand, YES, a negative COVID-19 test, or proof of antibodies (see above for the differences between antigen and PCR testing) will be accepted as a substitution for being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. However, as mentioned previously, we will be aligned with federal, state, county, and city government regulations which are subject to change and the only way to ensure complete access is through complete COVID-19 vaccination.

*Realize that the ICMCTF is a potentially 6 day event and those attendees who are not vaccinated and plan to attend for multiple days may potentially be required to test more than once over the course of the event.*

### **6. Will exceptions to your COVID-19 policy of complying with local government and venue regulations be accepted?**

No, we are unable to make any exceptions. We respect everyone's personal and/or religious perspective but if you are unable to comply with the ICMCTF 2022 regulations, we graciously ask you to bookmark our event and attend at a future date.

### **7. Where can I get tested in San Diego? [Click here for a list of nearby testing sites.](#)**

### **8. Are Children under 12 permitted at ICMCTF 2022?**

No. Children over 12 who are fully vaccinated or adhere to the current pre-testing requirements in effect on the date of admission can accompany an adult to the exhibition but they must first be registered.

### **9. Will I have to wear a mask during ICMCTF 2022?**

Masks are currently optional; however, ICMCTF 2022 recommends wearing them in larger group settings. In addition, you should be prepared to wear a face mask during all ICMCTF sessions and events if guidelines should change. An [acceptable mask](#) is made of at least two layers of breathable fabric or

hospital grade material; fully covers the nose, nostrils, and mouth; fits firmly under the chin; and fits snugly, but comfortably against the side of the face.

#### 10. What will you do if someone tests positive during ICMCTF 2022?

All attendees at the ICMCTF 2022 should complete a daily self-assessment using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#). If you have any symptoms, please do not come to the conference. Be sure to notify the ICMCTF staff immediately ([icmctf@icmctf.org](mailto:icmctf@icmctf.org)) and proceed to a nearby facility for testing: [Click here for a list of nearby testing sites](#). If you are already at ICMCTF, and you start to experience symptoms that are consistent with COVID-19, please come to the Isolation Area near registration to notify the ICMCTF staff immediately ([icmctf@icmctf.org](mailto:icmctf@icmctf.org)) and proceed to a nearby facility for testing: [Click here for a list of nearby testing sites](#). ICMCTF.

If you do test positive for COVID-19 we encourage you to disclose the information to the ICMCTF team, so that we may contact those that you may have been near during the show, and so that we can support you, to the best of our ability, during your isolation period.

Policy and procedures if you are Sick or have been exposed to the Virus are as follows:

##### **Order to Self-Quarantine:**

- Quarantine is used by public health professionals to separate potentially exposed individuals from the public, in the case that they become symptomatic and contagious to others. Quarantined people are asked to limit their contact with others and may be excluded from work or school. Should they begin exhibiting symptoms, they may be required to isolate.
- **Anyone who has had close contact with someone who has or is likely to have COVID-19 while the person was infectious (during the time when they had symptoms or 48 hours before the person's symptoms began) is required to self-quarantine in a residence for a minimum of 7 days and monitor closely for symptoms for 14 days after last exposure to the infectious person. Quarantined people should isolate themselves immediately if they begin experiencing symptoms.**
- Contact to someone who has or is likely to have COVID-19 is defined as a person who meets any of the following conditions:
  - Lives with or frequents the household where someone with or likely to have COVID-19 resides
  - Is an intimate partner of someone with or likely to have COVID-19?
  - Is a caregiver for someone with or likely to have COVID-19?
  - Has had any contact with someone with or likely to have COVID-19 while they were symptomatic, including anyone who:
    - Was within 6 feet of someone with or likely to have COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes OR
    - Had unprotected direct contact to secretions or excretions (sneeze or cough) of someone with or likely to have COVID-19
- Everyone who meets the above conditions must adhere to the requirements outlined in the [Home Quarantine Guidance for Close Contacts to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

#### 11. Should I purchase travel insurance?

Yes, Although the risk of contracting COVID-19 at ICMCTF 2022 is negligible we strongly suggest that all attendees purchase travel insurance (if their employer does not currently provide coverage) with an *Epidemic Coverage Endorsement* that addresses the following situations:

- **Trip Cancellation**, if for example you must cancel your trip after being diagnosed with COVID-19.
- **Trip Interruption**, if for example during your trip you are specifically named and individually ordered to quarantine (not including generally or broadly applicable quarantines).
- **Travel Delay**, if for example you are denied boarding based on a suspicion that you are ill with an epidemic disease such as COVID-19.
- **Emergency Medical Care**, if for example you are diagnosed with COVID-19 and need to be hospitalized while traveling.
- **Emergency Transportation**, if for example you're diagnosed with an epidemic disease such as COVID-19 while you're traveling, and you require an emergency medical evacuation.

These policies are widely available from any number of companies that specialize in travel insurance.

## 12. Who can travel to the U.S.?

On November 8, 2021, the U.S. Government indicated that the United States is open for air travelers from 33 countries including the UK, Europe, China, India, and Brazil, who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Check the [CDC Website](#) for the latest information as health policies and testing requirements/timing prior to departure are evolving over time. You should also be aware of all additional entry requirements, including up to date PCR or antigen tests and/or specific [origin country requirements](#) if you are visiting us from abroad. Check the [CDC Website](#) for the latest information.

## 13. Can I enter the US via another country (if there is a travel ban on visitors from my country)?

This is an option you could consider. You need to spend a minimum of 14 days in a country that is currently open to travel to US, and then follow the guidelines for normal entry into the US. We're flattered that you may want to join us but if this situation applies to you then we strongly suggest that you take a raincheck on attending and plan for a future event when travel restrictions are mitigated/lifted.

## 14.. Before you arrive (all participants):

- Prepare your COVID-19 certification: If requested, you must be able to present proof that you are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. We will accept [WHO/CDC-approved vaccines](#) that are also recognized by the US Government as sufficient to meet the vaccine entry requirements of the USA. Your final vaccine must be administered at least two weeks prior to the first day of ICMCTF 2022, May 22, 2022. You must also show your ID (physical).
- If providing COVID-19 test results, if requested, you must show a negative result (physical or photo), dated within 24 hours if Antigen test, or 48-72 hours if PCR test before the date of admission (no home tests). You must also show your ID (physical).
- **Have you completed a self-assessment? Are you symptom free?**
  - If you have any symptoms, please stay at home. You can check your symptoms using the [CDC's COVID-19 Self-Checker](#)
- **Pack your masks:** Masks are currently optional; however, ICMCTF 2022 recommends wearing them in larger group settings. In addition, you should be prepared to wear a face mask during all ICMCTF sessions and events if guidelines should change.
  - **Check your flight and travel arrangements:** Ensure you've checked the requirements of your airline and the destinations from which you will be travelling.
  - **Print your registration confirmation:** If you're already registered, we'll email you registration confirmation. Please print this ahead of time and take it with you when you check in at the Convention Center. You can pick up badge holders and lanyards at the entrance.
- **Please allow extra time for arrival on your first day (we advise 30 minutes), and carefully follow our signage designed to ease traffic flow**
- **Be prepared to show your COVID-19 certification or negative 72 hour test result:** If requested, you must be able to present proof that you are fully vaccinated or have a negative 72 hour COVID-19 test result when you arrive in the ICMCTF Registration Area.
- **Please comply with all [CDC COVID-19 health and safety guidelines](#)**