

Health & Safety Plan

To promote the safety of ALD/ALE 2022 attendees, we will monitor the guidance and requirements in the <u>European Union</u>, <u>Belgium (specifically the Flanders region)</u> as well as the <u>World</u> <u>Health Organization</u> regarding COVID-19 safety practices. Therefore, this Attendee Safety Plan may change from time to time through the last day of ALD/ALE in June 2022**

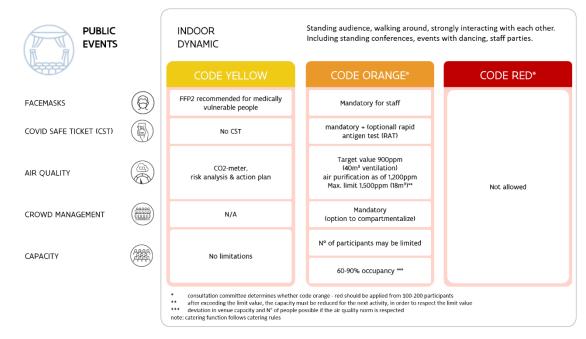
**Note: There will be no exceptions to the ALD/ALE 2022 COVID-19 policy even if you are complying with local government and venue regulations. We respect everyone's personal and/or religious perspective but if you are unable to comply with the ALD/ALE 2022 policies, we graciously ask you to bookmark our event and attend at a future date.

Belgium has installed a corona barometer, an instrument for proactive policy preparation and communication. The corona barometer has three phases - code yellow, orange and red - that reflect the pressure on the healthcare system. As of March 7, 2022, Code Yellow is in effect.

In addition, the International Convention Center (ICC) Ghent has implemented a variety of new protocols and elevated practices, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and in keeping with our high standards of cleanliness and commitment to providing excellent service. **IMPORTANT**: In light of events surrounding COVID-19, this is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the risks incident to attending AVS ALD/ALE. Even with every reasonable precaution to keep you safe as outlined for you by the CDC, ALD/ALE 2022 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 ALD/ALE 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 Test Required:** 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 onsite ALD/ALE 2022 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 vaccines approved by the <u>European Union</u>. An Example: 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). Please note that your final vaccine must be administered at least two weeks prior to the first day of ALD/ALE 2022, June 26, 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, ALD/ALE 2022 recommends wearing them in larger group settings. In addition, you should be prepared to wear a face mask during all ALD/ALE 2022 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 ALD/ALE 2022 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 AVS ALD/ALE *Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability* statement prior to registering.

AVS ALD/ALE 2022 ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF LIABILTY:

Please review the following AVS ALD/ALE 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 <u>events@avs.org</u>.

AVS ALD/ALE 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 AVS 22nd International Conference on Atomic Layer Deposition featuring the 9th International Atomic Layer Etching Workshop (ALD/ALE 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 International Convention Center (ICC) Ghent, their respective employees, agents, contractors, volunteers, and other Event participants. Registrants agree to abide by all preventative measures (collectively "Measures") put in place by AVS ALD/ALE, the International Convention Center (ICC) Ghent, their respective employees, agents, contractors, and volunteers at any time prior to and during the Event 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 AVS ALD/ALE 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
 - o not provided proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative PCR or Antigen test (as noted above).
 - refused to wear a mask when requested while in the International Convention Center (ICC) Ghent or any facility hosting an ALD/ALE 2022 event or meeting.
 - Attendees must adhere to the requirements of any such signage and any directives from the AVS ALD/ALE 2022 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
- AVS ALD/ALE 2022 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 conference policies above. No refunds will be given, and such conduct may disqualify such individuals from attending future AVS Meetings.

In addition, ALD/ALE will be implementing the following safety measures in addition to the enhanced International Convention Center (ICC) Ghent cleaning protocols in each meeting area:

ALL AREAS:

- Handshaking, hugging, or other unnecessary person-to-person contact is a personal decision based upon your own comfort level.
- ALD/ALE will remind participants through appropriate signage and/or verbal communications.

REGISTRATION AREA:

- Requirement of pre-registration in order to minimize lines in Registration Area
- 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 food and beverage stations where feasible

IF YOU FEEL SICK:

Flanders offers some of the highest-quality health care services in the world. The national health care system provides benefits for hospital, medical, pharmaceutical, some allied services and ambulance during your stay. The Belgian State health care system provides in free emergency care for visiting EU citizens, under the same terms as locals, using the European Health Insurance Card, EHIC (formerly E111). Non EU citizens need a private health insurance to be able to recuperate possible costs. For tourists it is part of their travel insurance. A private health insurance is also necessary for EU citizens who want to cover non-emergency care plus (like repatriation etc.). More information

If you have any of the following symptoms (cough, respiratory problems, fever, aches and pains, fatigue, loss of smell or taste, diarrhea), please follow these steps:

AT THE CONFERENCE CENTER:

- 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.
- ALD/ALE 2022 will assist those presenting COVID-19-like symptoms to exit safely to get tested.
- 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.

AT THE HOTEL:

- Stay at the hotel (even if your symptoms are mild).
- Inform the owner/manager who will call a general practitioner (GP) and report your symptoms.
- Don't go to the GP or to a hospital accident & emergency unit on your own initiative.
- The GP will tell you by phone what to do. e.g. to go to your GP practice or a triage center for a test.
- Make a list of all the people you came in close contact with.
- Did you test positive? A government employee will call you to start the contact tracing.

TRAVELING TO ATTEND:

• **Belgium Travel Restrictions:** Look for current restrictions on entering Belgium from different regions at https://reopen.europa.eu/en as well as https://reopen.europa.eu/en as well as https://reopen.europa.eu/en as well as https://reopen.europa.eu/en as well as https://www.visitflanders.com/en/plan-your-trip/travel-info/. If you are not a Belgian resident and you are planning to stay for more than 48 hours in Belgium, a Passenger Locator Form (PLF) may be required within the EU (except for those traveling with a carrier from a third country that is not on the EU white-list).

Depending on your country of departure, different measures apply. We advise you to check, before your departure, the website https://reopen.europa.eu/en where you will find the latest travel advice according to your travel plan (based on country of departure and country of arrival). Take into consideration all of the countries through which you will be travelling.

- **Visa Requirements**: Depending on your country of departure, you may need to apply for a visa. Click here for more details <u>https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en.</u>
- 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.
- **Should I purchase travel insurance?** Yes, although the risk of contracting COVID-19 at ALD/ALE 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.