

# Employee Health and Safety in a Time of Crisis: Testing for COVID-19



Nothing about the 2020 coronavirus pandemic is uncomplicated. Ensuring the health and safety of employees during this stressful time is no different. Not only do companies have to consider the health of individuals who may have come in contact with the SARS-CoV-2 virus; there is also the safety of those they work alongside.

### **Facing the Testing Challenge**

For a Fortune 100 global consumer goods company, providing the option of COVID-19 testing through its employee health program was a key part of ensuring the health and safety of its global workforce. Looking to quickly roll out its response to the pandemic, the company wanted to implement in-house testing of those who either exhibited symptoms related to the pandemic or who wanted the assurance they were free from the virus.

With a global workforce numbering in the thousands, this customer has in-house medical centers for employee health. The company also has multiple laboratories for product development and quality. To provide accurate testing and determine exposure to the virus, the company leveraged those resources and called on LabVantage Solutions, its existing partner for laboratory information management systems (LIMS), to rapidly deploy a purposebuilt COVID-19 LIMS for sample management, patient privacy, and secure results reporting in its employee health program.

Because it is pre-configured, LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS requires only weeks to implement. It includes COVID-19 extraction and testing workflows with related master data for rapid use, and can easily accommodate standard and customer-determined protocols for testing using a variety of approaches—such as RT-PCR, isothermal nucleic acid amplification, and serology. Depending on customer preference, the LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS can be deployed as a software-as-a-service (SaaS) for rapid implementation, via the cloud, or on-premise.

# A COVID-19 LIMS MEETS THE NEEDS OF A GLOBAL CPG GIANT'S WORKFORCE

LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS is built on an industry-leading LIMS, with master data, test methods, and workflows specifically for COVID-19 testing.

## **Assuring Security and Speed**

The customer uses in-house medical and laboratory personnel to securely test employees for COVID-19 and track test data. Employees who display symptoms, or those who request a test to ensure their safety, are quickly scheduled for the procedure, then the LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS prepares the sample request, labels the sample specimens, tracks all patient and sample data, and reports results.

Employee privacy is assured through existing levels of permission put in place with LabVantage, as well as the strict management of roles that follow the privacy and security protocols set out by the US Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and the EU's General Data Protection Regulation. Only medical personnel have access to employee data—as they would for any other employee health-related issue—while lab personnel who conduct the tests have access only to anonymized data. From test ordering to result reporting, the entire process meets all guidelines set out by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

#### **Putting the Customer in Control**

Not only did LabVantage's technical skills and rapid response to the customer's requests enable the testing system to be put in place quickly, the company reported that implementing its COVID response for workplace safety was easier because the COVID-19 LIMS is an industry-standard solution with master data for equipment and consumables types, test methods, and workflows.

In addition, LabVantage's ISO-27001 certification, existing validation practices, and Certificate of Release allowed the customer to focus its validation efforts on its critical functions while still being able to confidently point to a reliable solution.

Using its own labs, with the LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS as a standalone system, the customer gained better control of the testing process, including quality and timing, and could provide employees greater confidence regarding the security of their health-related data.

#### **Building Flexibility and Scale**

LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS incorporates the company's deep knowledge of laboratory workflows, along with numerous features designed to make it easy for labs to perform coronavirus testing. It is highly scalable, an attractive attribute as testing volumes escalate, making it ideal for companies like this customer that are equipped to conduct all testing-related work in-house, as well as for organizations that do not have their own testing facilities and work with third-party labs. Scalability will help as this customer begins to offer health testing capability at other global locations.

#### A LIMS CONFIGURED SPECIFICALLY FOR COVID-19

The need for COVID-19 lab informatics became immediately apparent: from research labs to healthcare settings, thousands of coronavirus samples are processed, requiring solutions to manage those samples and related data.

LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS is a full-featured COVID informatics solution that deploys in just weeks, via SaaS, to manage the unprecedented acceleration of lab workflows and volumes from coronavirus testing. Whether managing diagnostic testing or therapeutic and vaccine research, LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS offers built-in COVID workflows, CDC test methods, and master data. With optional biobanking capabilities based on LabVantage's market-leading biobanking LIMS, LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS is a modern, scalable solution offering robust data integrity.

**ENSURE EMPLOYEE HEALTH AND SAFETY** with COVID-19 testing managed by LabVantage COVID-19 LIMS. Learn more at labvantage.com/COVID-19-LIMS



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#### ABOUT LABVANTAGE SOLUTIONS

A recognized leader in enterprise laboratory software solutions, LabVantage Solutions dedicates itself to improving customer outcomes by transforming data into knowledge. The LabVantage informatics platform is highly configurable, integrated across a common architecture, and 100% browser-based to support hundreds of concurrent users. Deployed on-premise, via the cloud, or SaaS, it seamlessly interfaces with instruments and other enterprise systems — enabling true digital transformation. The platform consists of the most modern laboratory information management system (LIMS) available, integrated electronic laboratory notebook (ELN), laboratory execution system (LES), and scientific data management system (SDMS); and, for healthcare settings, a laboratory information system (LIS). We support more than 1500 global customer sites in the life sciences, pharmaceutical, medical device, biobank, food & beverage, consumer packaged goods, oil & gas, genetics/diagnostics, and healthcare industries. Headquartered in Somerset, NJ., with global offices, LabVantage has, for four decades, offered its comprehensive portfolio of products and services to enable customers to innovate faster in the R&D cycle, improve manufactured product quality, achieve accurate record-keeping, and comply with regulatory requirements.

For more information, visit www.labvantage.com.