



Members Respond to the Coronavirus Challenge

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Cheryl Goh, Regional Director,
Global & Strategic Accounts,
Shaw Industries, Singapore



What's the biggest work/COVID-19 challenge you're facing this week?

We have seen a significant downturn in our overall business that we expect to continue through the second quarter. Due to this decline, we have implemented temporary closings or reduced schedules at many of our manufacturing facilities, temporary furlough of some of our associates, reduction of unnecessary expenses, and reduction of T&E budgets.

What's the current situation in your city relative to opening non-essential businesses?

I am lucky enough to live in Singapore where the government has things under control. We have plenty of food as well as daily supplies and all essential services remain fully operational/available. The extended circuit breaker to June 1st is a prudent and necessary approach to containing the situation. All non-essential businesses are slated to commence operations after that date unless the situation makes a turn for the worse.

How do you think COVID-19 will bring about permanent changes in corporate real estate and workplace strategy?

The way we work will certainly change. If anything, this pandemic has demonstrated that working remotely, well, can work. There will be a reduction in real estate footprint and the existing space will be made more efficient. The office will be a more agile workplace with a more efficient workspace.

More focus on technology as an enabler to bring us to the next century.