

A **56 year old female** employee contracted **COVID-19** while working on an assembly line during a COVID outbreak at the facility. This facility is a parts manufacturer (actuators, sensors, etc.) for Subaru automobiles.

On September 28, 2021, a manager that worked as a production control planner felt her allergies acting up but had no other symptoms such as a temperature. After work, she had a rapid COVID-19 test which came back positive. As a manager, she would be at all management meetings related to production.

On October 4, 2021, 6 employees called in sick all of which ended up with confirmed cases of COVID-19. Since two (2) of the sick employees were managers, the president of the facility required all managers to take a COVID-19 test. Two (2) of the remaining managers tested positive for COVID-19. Therefore, a total of 9 employees had active cases of COVID 19 on October 4, 2021.

By October 11, 2021, there were 18 confirmed cases of COVID-19. During the testing process multiple employees tested negative several times prior to a positive test. In addition, both vaccinated and unvaccinated employees were infected.

On assembly line 11, there were three workstations to assemble actuators for Subaru automobiles. The victim and two other employees normally worked that line and all three employees had positive COVID-19 cases. The victim had a confirmed positive COVID-19 case on October 4, 2021. On the morning of October 19, 2021, she was taken to the hospital via an ambulance where she passed away.

No major issues that contributed to the fatality were found in the employer's implementation of the CDC guidelines. According to interviews and documentation provided by the employer, extensive efforts had been made to comply with guidelines. The employer's PPE policy was appropriate. Currently, while working in the facility employees are required to wear a surgical mask, have their temperature taken daily, and clean prior to each break to allow the disinfectant contact time for disinfection.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

No citations issued

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