

## Smarter Social Distancing: Casella Launches Orbi-Trace Smart-Tag to Support Workplace Social Distancing

Workers and businesses have never been more aware of the need for positive occupational hygiene culture than they are as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. There has been an unprecedented effect on businesses – in Q2 of 2020, over 32,000,000 working days were lost as a result of Covid-19 related absences, translating into a cost of over £4 billion to UK businesses<sup>[1]</sup>. The challenge industry now faces in reopening is balancing worker health, the concerns of employee and legal and legislative responsibility around operating a ‘Covid secure’ workplace.

A key means of protecting people against Covid-19 exposure, in workplaces and in the wider world, has been social distancing – remaining 2m apart or 1m with extra precautions in place<sup>[2]</sup> - something that will prove challenging on workplaces where floor plans are designed for special efficiency, not to keep workers as distanced as possible.

**Casella**, expert manufacturer of smart monitoring technology, has developed an innovative, technology-forward solution to simplify social distancing in the workplace with the launch of the Orbi-Trace smart tag – a flexible social distancing solution that provides simple proximity alerts all the way up to full effective contact tracing.

The body-worn Orbi-Trace smart tag is simple to operate, with a stop/start input and single LED power alert. It gives the wearer fully configurable vibration and audible alerts whenever a 2m safe distance is breached, and can operate indoors and out, with a battery life of up to seven days.

The sophisticated Ultra-wideband (UWB) connectivity is accurate in detecting distances down to 10cm accuracy – making it 20 x more accurate than Bluetooth. The connectivity will not cause interference with WIFI or other RF technologies.

When combined with the wall-mounted anchor unit and proprietary, free to use Infection Insights software, the Orbi-Trace can be used to generate connection graphs and risk and contact assessments, should an employee test positive for Covid-19. Adding additional anchor units to the system expands this to full real-time contract tracking, giving users access to heat-maps of areas where social-distancing may be consistently challenging and a full contract tracing history, making enforcing controls much more straightforward. For those mediating employee privacy concerns, the Orbi-Trace system is also fully GDPR compliant.

“The Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenging time for everyone on a business and personal level. But where there are challenges, there are inevitable solutions,” says Tim Turney, Casella Global Marketing Manager. “Businesses have proved their resilience and adaptability in getting staff safely back to work through the Pandemic, and now as those businesses look towards the future with a large-scale return to work, we are here to support them.”

“The Orbi-Trace smart tag is a combined solution to the challenges employees and employees alike face in ensuring a Covid-secure, compliant workplace; maintaining social distancing, enforcing the correct control measures, contact tracing where needed and, most importantly, giving workers and workplaces vital peace of mind that their safety is top priority.”

For more information about the Orbi-Trace smart tag and Casella’s range of market leading personal monitoring equipment, visit <https://www.casellasolutions.com/uk/en.html>

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## **About Casella**

Casella is dedicated to reducing environmental and occupational health risks by developing equipment and technology for dust, noise and vibration monitoring.

Casella's core purpose is to create technology aimed at improving the working environment of employees, while providing robust data and equipment platforms to enable organisations to remain compliant with health and safety regulations. The company is an expert in the integration of sensor technology and data management systems that further improve productivity and overall safety in the workplace. Casella's range of instrumentation includes real-time dust monitors, personal sampling pumps, sound level meters, personal dosimeters, hand-arm vibration and boundary/fence-line monitors. Casella is a global business, part of the IDEAL Industries Inc. group of companies, with offices in the UK, US, Australia, China and India.

The company has provided precision instrumentation since 1799 and supplied eminent figures, including Charles Darwin, with instrumentation for exploration and scientific work. Casella works with a network of specialist distributors to provide local service and client support to those searching out solutions for risk reduction and management.

[www.casellasolutions.com](http://www.casellasolutions.com)

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[1] <https://www.hrreview.co.uk/hr-news/q2-saw-32397966-working-days-lost-due-to-covid-19-related-absences/127162>

[2] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>