CASE STUDY: GET EMPLOYEES BACK TO WORK SAFELY WITH THERMOGRAPHIC CAMERAS

The coronavirus (COVID-19) disrupted life as we know it in 2020, and the word "pivot" took on an entirely new meaning for businesses of all sizes. Facing public shutdowns and shelter-in-place orders nationwide, company leaders grasped for ways to protect the health and well-being of employees and customers while still maintaining critical business operations.

That's when **the Armstrong Group introduced thermographic cameras,** a simple and inexpensive way to do preliminary temperature screenings for employees.

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Corporation:
The Armstrong Group

Employee Count:
2000+

Industries:
Telecommunications
Security
Commercial Development
Electronics
Manufacturing
HVAC
Plumbing

Objective:
- Get employees back to work safely
- Protect employees who remained on site

The Armstrong Group successfully used thermographic cameras to:

- Help protect essential employees who stayed on site.
- Bring its full workforce back to the office safely.
- Perform highly accurate temperature screening in seconds.
- Scan 1000s of employees daily without disrupting business.
- Help other businesses create safer working environments with contact-free temperature screening.

> "Thermographic technology has allowed us to safely bring our team back into the office without any business disruptions. This tool shows enormous potential to provide places like schools, daycares, and nursing homes an additional layer of security, through COVID and beyond."
>
> -Darren Crawford
> *Vice President & General Manager*
> *Commercial & National Accounts*

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THE CHALLENGE

During the coronavirus crisis, the companies that make up the Armstrong Group were deemed essential businesses immediately after public shutdowns and shelter-in-place orders went into effect.

While many Armstrong Group employees needed to remain on-site, those who could work remotely were instructed to do so to limit the spread of COVID-19.

With a culture built around collaboration, community, and a commitment to exceptional customer service, the Armstrong Group needed an innovative way to safely and responsibly bring back its full workforce while maintaining government and health department guidelines.

THE SOLUTION

The Armstrong Group brought its diverse family of companies together to face this challenge head-on, forming a cross-functional COVID response task force.

A great deal of time, research, and strategic planning were dedicated to establishing health and safety guidelines based on location- and job-specific risks.

During the early planning stages, a new technology solution was discovered: Highly accurate thermographic cameras (thermo cameras) that can be used for on-site preliminary temperature screening.

Thermo cameras can accurately detect an individual's surface body temperature within seconds. The cameras use advanced algorithms to provide reliable temperature measurement and quickly notify operators of any out-of-range temperature readings.

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IMPLEMENTATION

Once the decision was made to utilize thermographic technology, cameras were purchased and installed in the facilities, corporate offices, and manufacturing plants of multiple Armstrong Companies.

Because thermo graphic cameras are virtually plug-and-play, the installation process was rapid and seamless. When it was time to bring remote employees back to work, Armstrong was ready to help admit them safely and protect the employees who were already on site.

THE PROCESS

Thermo cameras are simple and flexible enough to meet the needs of diverse companies.

Each company in the Armstrong Group was able to create an individualized process.

1 Employees only used entrances with thermo camera stations. Floor markings spaced 6 feet apart showed where to stand in line.

2 When space was ready, the next person in line proceeded to the marked spot approximately 1 foot away from the thermo camera mounted on a tripod.

3 Without touching the camera, the employee remained still for 2 seconds.

4 The camera recorded the employee's temperature.

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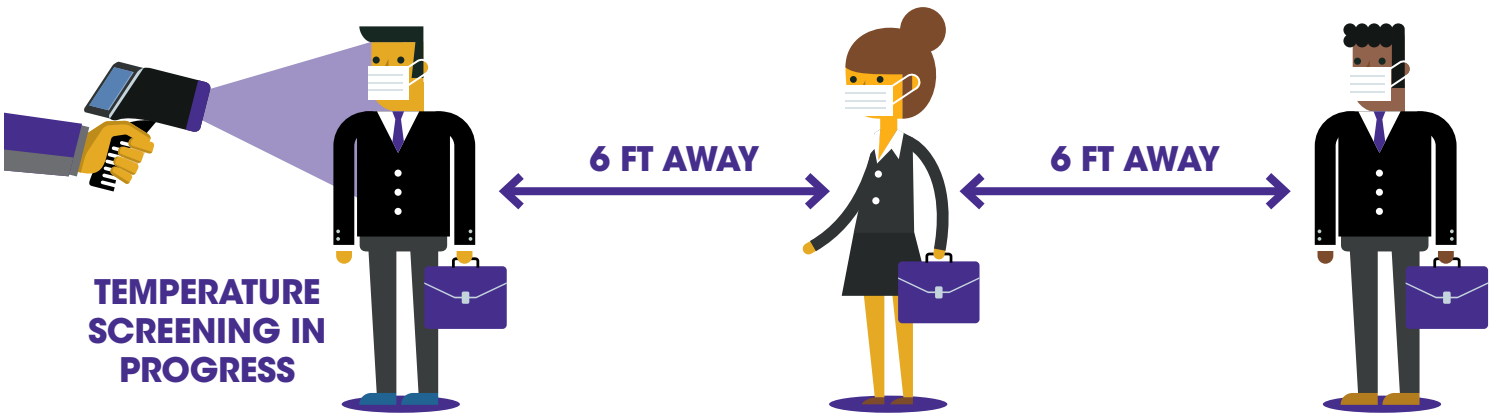

If an individual's temperature recorded as "hot," or above the threshold the employer set, that individual used a secondary handheld thermometer for a temperature scan.

Any employee who received two "hot" scans in a row was required to leave the site. Two consecutive "good" temperature scans were required before the individual was allowed to return.

> "These cameras have an added advantage in that they can be unmanned. This technology allows us to monitor the temperatures of our employees without having to be in close proximity. These cameras provide the ability to maintain mandated safety precautions and social distancing guidelines."
>
> -Shawn Beatty, *Manager of Employee Health and Safety*

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After some of the most difficult and uncertain times the country has ever seen, the Armstrong Group successfully welcomed its full workforce back on site without any disruption to business. In the weeks following the initial roll-out, 35 cameras were purchased and installed across Armstrong Group companies nationwide.

Above all else, the dedication and teamwork of employees made safe re-entry possible. But thermographic cameras were an integral part of this process, taking each company's safety measures above and beyond what was required by the CDC and other government organizations.

Even better, Guardian Protection — a premier provider of smart security and automation solutions — is now offering these cameras to commercial customers looking to create safer working environments.

Learn more about thermographic cameras and how Guardian can help keep your employees and your business safe at GuardianProtection.com, or call ***1.800.PROTECT (1.800.776.8328).***

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ABOUT THE ARMSTRONG GROUP

Headquartered just north of Pittsburgh, PA, the Armstrong Group is a leader in the telecommunications, security, commercial development, electronics, manufacturing, HVAC, and plumbing industries.

- Armstrong Utilities, Inc.
- Armstrong Telephone Company
- Guardian Protection
- Armstrong Development
- Armstrong Foods
- 4Front Solutions

Visit agoc.com to learn more.

ABOUT GUARDIAN PROTECTION

Guardian Protection is a premier provider of smart security and automation solutions for residential, commercial, institutional, and multi-site customers. More than a quarter million customers trust Guardian's award-winning monitoring services and in-house, U.S.-based customer care specialists.

Visit GuardianProtection.com to learn more.

INTRUSION DETECTION | **DIGITAL CAMERA SYSTEM (CCTV)** | **FIRE ALARM SYSTEM** | **ACCESS CONTROL** | **AWARD-WINNING MONITORING**

Telethermographic camera systems can provide an initial body temperature measurement for triage use by determining a person's surface skin temperature, which is then used to estimate the person's temperature at a reference body site (e.g., oral, tympanic membrane). This product is not an FDA-approved device and is not intended to be used for medical purposes, such as the diagnosis, treatment, cure, mitigation or prevention of any illness, disease or other condition. If this product is used to provide a body temperature measurement in a triage setting or otherwise, it should be used in conjunction with a comprehensive body temperature measurement assessment that includes secondary evaluation methods that confirm body temperature measurements pursuant to applicable regulations, guidelines, and standards. Images are for illustrative purposes and may not reflect the exact product/service actually provided.