



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael Bryant
Director of Marketing
michael.bryant@pegex.com
608-210-4224

CORONAVIRUS AND THE WASTE MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY: BEING PREPARED FOR WHAT COULD COME

March 16, 2020 (Newswire) – PegEx released a statement in regards to the Coronavirus and its effect on the Waste Management Industry reminding us that the CDC says that it may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. It is important to understand the length of time an object can remain infected and how this affects waste haulers and brokers, your employees handling and disposing of the waste, as well as those reporting it.

The article goes on to say that the Influenza virus is capable of being transferred to hands and causing an infection after surviving on hard surfaces for 24 hours and as of March 12th, 2020, this statement has become alarmingly true with more than 127,000 cases of COVID-19 worldwide and the US has passed 1300 within the first few weeks of the virus entering the United States, as seen in the [Live Tracking Map](#) created by John Hopkins Research Team.

The WHO (World Health Organization) reports that it is not certain how long the virus that causes COVID-19 survives on surfaces, but it seems to behave like other coronaviruses. Studies suggest that coronaviruses (including preliminary information on the COVID-19 virus) may persist on surfaces for a few hours or up to several days. This may vary under different conditions (e.g. type of surface, temperature or humidity of the environment) and is where those in the Waste Management Industry should take caution.

If your business has been identified as a generator of hazardous waste and/or universal waste, you must follow federal and state hazardous waste laws. The intent of these laws is to ensure that hazardous waste is properly managed to protect public health and the environment. David DiPasquale, SaaS CRO for PegEx, said, “Without agile processes, technology, and the proper infrastructure in place, failure implications could be substantial in an already highly complex and regulated industry.”

OSHA states that workers and employers should manage waste contaminated with 2019- nCoV as they would other regulated medical waste. OSHA also states that workers use appropriate engineering and administrative controls, safe work practices, and PPE, such as puncture-resistant gloves and face/eye protection, to prevent worker exposure to medical waste, including sharps and other items that can cause injuries or exposures to infectious materials.

OSHA states that exposure risk may be elevated for some workers who interact with potentially infected travelers from abroad, including those involved in solid waste, as well as hazardous waste management. For the full story and guidance for managing 2019- nCoV materials, please [click here](#).

###

About PEGEX®

PegEx®, Inc. is a rapidly growing, technology-enabled solutions provider that delivers knowledge, safety, and efficiency to the waste industry via its advanced cloud-based software. The PEGEX® PLATFORM provides a set of productivity modules that accelerate the process of transporting, tracking, and disposing of hazardous waste, with compliance every step of the way. The platform taps extensive rules and data, unique to the waste industry, to enable real-time business and operating decisions. Learn more at www.pegex.com.