

PRESS RELEASE

Coronavirus Crisis : Sense Of Responsibility And Professionalism For French Contractors, Entrepreneurs des Territoires (EDT)

In order to effectively combat the spread of Covid 19, the EDTs and their 121 000 employees are massively mobilizing to ensure the safety of people while the high season for agricultural work is announced with the return of spring.

Paris, March 16, 2020 - "Faced with the unprecedented health crisis in our country, we are fully mobilized to apply all regulatory measures to stop the spread of Covid 19" announces Gérard Napias, President of the National Federation of Entrepreneurs of Territories (FNEDT). As the high season for spring agricultural work looms, Gérard Napias clarifies the sense of commitment that drives the EDTs: "We have a double responsibility: guaranteeing the health of people while ensuring the continuity of agricultural production essential to the diet of our fellow citizens".

Sowing, planting, harvesting, fodder and maintenance activities have started and will intensify with the return of spring. The high season will start with a very intense circulation of agricultural, forestry and rural machinery.

This is why the EDTs immediately took the decision to adapt their activity protocols, both to their customers and to their suppliers.

From Monday, March 16, access to offices and workshops is drastically limited according to procedures defined on a case-by-case basis by each company, until further notice.

The EDTs invite their customers to place work orders exclusively by telephone or email and agree to do the same with their suppliers.

"The health and safety of the employees of our companies as well as those of our partner customers have always been our priority" recalls Gérard Napias, before adding: "the situation requires us to strengthen them to stem the epidemic while guaranteeing a continuation of activity".

As such, the following "barrier" measures apply: systematic hand washing, safety distances of one meter, coughing in the elbow.

Each agricultural work company will reinforce these basic provisions with a device adapted to its customers for each situation: do not go into the cabins, favor the telephone, etc.

The situation of apprentices and trainees dismissed following the closure of training centers is currently dealt with on a case-by-case basis in companies linked to establishments.

These provisions have been decided subject to new information and may be modified or supplemented depending on the evolution of the situation to which the EDTs remain very attentive.

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About - FNEDT

Fédération Nationale Entrepreneurs Des Territoires (FNEDT) is the french professional organization that represents entrepreneurs in agricultural, forestry and rural work. The FNEDT brings together 62 departmental unions and 13 regional unions. Key actors of employment in the rural world, the 21,000 agricultural, rural and forestry contractors and their 121,802 permanent and occasional employees carry out works for farmers and foresters, owners and businesses, local communities . 265,000 farmers (60% of French farms) use agricultural work companies. FNEDT is member of CEETTAR (Confédération Européenne des Entreprises de Travaux Techniques Agricoles, Ruraux et Forestiers).