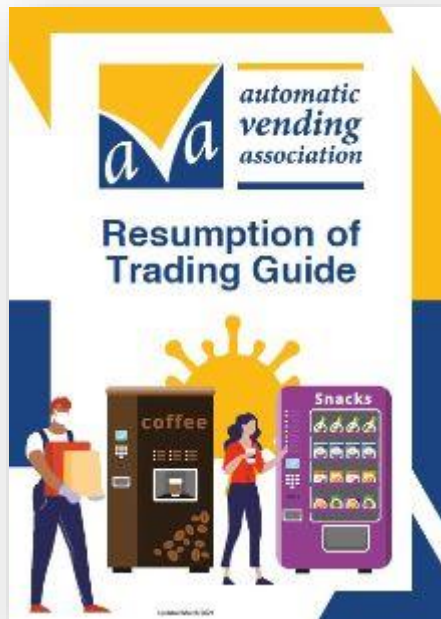




AVA Newsletter: 15th March 2021

AVA Guide to Re-opening Client Sites and Equipment

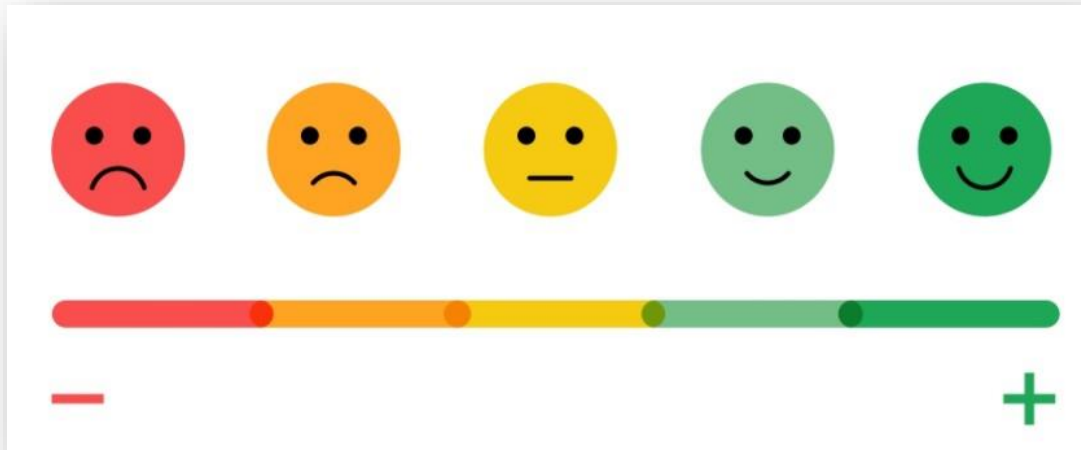


As we follow the latest Government Road Map, Clients are starting to re-open workplaces and gradually sites are starting to see people returning, the AVA Technical Committee has reviewed and updated the AVA 'Resumption of Trading' guide.

Many members will already have processes in place after the previous Lockdown, but just in case, this handy checklist, outlining steps to take when re-starting machines which have been switched off for weeks, if not months, can be found on the AVA COVID-19 web page: [Return to Work and Resumption of Trading Guide](#)

DIARY DATES

Already some Industry events are changing dates or format. Keep up to date by regularly checking the AVA Industry Calendar: [AVA Industry Events Calendar](#)
If you are planning (or re-planning) an event, let us know.



The AVA has released the results from its annual member satisfaction survey this month.

The survey, which gained 68 company responses from the AVA's 180-strong member base, has seen a 36% increase over four years for those who would recommend AVA membership – to just over 90% of respondents.

AVA members also used the annual survey to highlight the services they value most in their membership, with an increased 57.5% of members surveyed stating ongoing lobbying on key legislation is crucial in the industry's post-pandemic recovery.

In response to this feedback, the AVA has bolstered its external communication and lobbying activity by enlisting reputation management agency, [Definition](#). The topics and issues covered include the ongoing lobbying for support from the Government: Additional Restriction Grants (ARGs), an extension of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and extension of the VAT reduction for hospitality businesses.

AVA members also highlighted the need for ongoing technical advice and knowledge updates, both during lockdown and as restrictions ease. The AVA has seen a 50% increase in technical and knowledge advice appreciation since the pandemic began and has pledged to continue this with a busy webinar and committee schedule into 2021 and beyond.

The Automatic Vending Association is dedicated to upholding the needs of our members in what is still an immensely difficult time for their respective businesses. However, members are encouraged to join the effort to lobby for support, as we are more likely to be successful in our fight if more members show enthusiasm across the United Kingdom.

Ways of doing this range from sharing the AVA's social content and content of your own online, all the way to reaching out to your local MP with our press releases to engage support on a local and national level.

We would like to thank all those who took part in the survey. Full details of which can be found [HERE](#)



HELP TO GROW - SUBSIDISED MANAGEMENT TRAINING

This programme was announced as part of The Chancellor's latest Budget.

This June, small businesses will be able to access a 12 week-programme delivered by leading business schools across the UK. The programme will combine a practical curriculum, with One-to-One support from a business mentor, peer-learning sessions and an alumni network.

Designed to be manageable alongside full-time work, this programme will support small business leaders to develop their strategic skills with key modules covering financial management, innovation and digital adoption. By the end of the programme participants will develop a tailored business growth plan to lead their business to its full potential.

30,000 places will be available over 3 years. The programme is 90% subsidised by government. You can find more detail [HERE](#)

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