

# Safety Concept for the event “MountainBytes” - COVID-Prevention

## Scope, Event Description

The demoscene is one of the oldest digital cultures, and demoparties are the central component to maintain our artform.

For many of us, the scene is their primary hobby and even their primary or even sole social sphere.

Being heavily technology-focussed, our movement is science-friendly and informs itself in detail. Hence, a safety concept is not only in the organizer's and officials' best interest, but is also publicly shared on our website and is being sent to our ticket holders.

After a year of moving almost all of our events online, we aim to give our culture form its physical platform back that it needs. Under consideration of all available information and in transparent exchange with all stakeholders, we want to build a concept that bears justice to the situation at hand and the safety of our friends, helpers and communities.

MountainBytes expects around 100 - 120 participants including personnel and helpers. Our visitors come from all over Europe, of course under consideration of potential quarantine instructions.

The ticket presale may be limited to 100 tickets, to individually assign additional reserve tickets short-term, to ensure all following measures even during box office sale.

Beside the challenges we have to address, our event also holds certain chances: visitors rarely frequent other establishments during their stay apart from our location and their hotel, and are in general very considerate and disciplined about current safety measures. By default, a majority of us lives staid and even reclusive, on average we are in our mid-thirties. Many of us have families and have already worked mostly in remote-office settings before the pandemic.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this concept. Of course we are happy about any feedback.

## Venue Plan

We are happy that the Lorzensaal is a very considerate and alert partner, and proactively strives to protect and improve according to the situation. Thatfor we of course heed their own security concept, which can be viewed at <https://www.lorzensaal.ch/en/covid-19>.

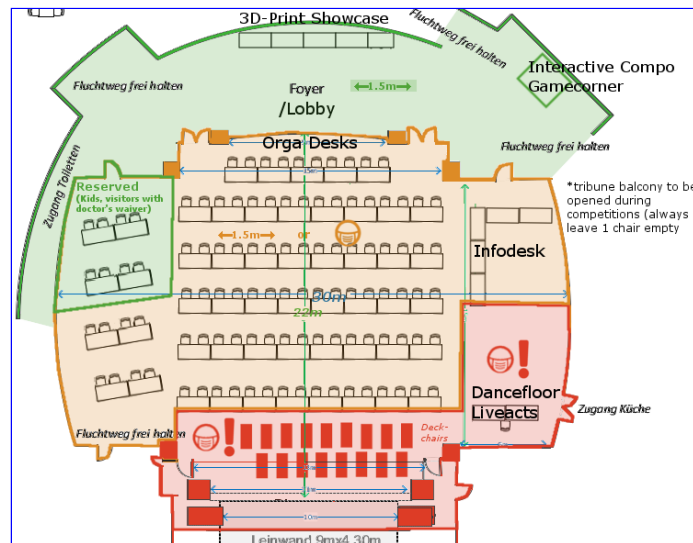
Demoparties are a place of collaboration and exchange between programmers, graphics artists and musicians. Thus, a strict separation of visitors into isolated zones is not feasible. We are compensating this restraint with further safety measures.

We assessed the following areas of the event as risk-areas for infections by aerosols:

- Dancefloor
- Bigscreen Area (traditionally, our visitors sit in front of the bigscreen on chairs or on the floor. Good entries are being regarded by clapping and loud shouting.)
- Seating Area (little distance, static seating for longer periods, visitors walk between desks)

The seating plan was adjusted, instead of three chairs per table we will only offer two. Potentially, a third chain may be placed inbetween people as an additional barrier.

As the venue will be occupied around the clock, we are planning three different zones with respective safety measures:



Our event mandates the wearing of hygiene masks. The different areas are marked on the floor. For visitors who are unable to wear masks for health reasons, we reserved special seats with its own entrance. We are asking everyone affected to get in touch with us before the event, provide a reason (and in the best case, a doctor's note). The same is valid for kids amongst the age of 12 and their caregivers without an attest. Red areas mandate the wearing of masks for **all** participants.

Multi boxes with one-way masks will be provided by us for anyone who forgot theirs. Turtlenecks, shawls, visors and masks with exhaust valves do not fulfill our mask mandate.

**Red Zones:** Masks mandatory. Hold distance if possible.

**Orange Zones:** Masks **or** minimum distance mandatory.

**Green Zones:** Minimum distance can be ensured. The wearing of masks is appreciated.

### Behaviour Rules - Visitors

Visitors commit with their purchase to the following rules to participate:

- their personal contact information is complete, correct and up to date
- they are symptom-free while travelling and participating
- they commit to all rules and guidelines in this concept.
- they inform us immediately about symptoms or an infection via [shana@mountainbytes.ch](mailto:shana@mountainbytes.ch) or [psykon@mountainbytes.ch](mailto:psykon@mountainbytes.ch). The information is only accessible to the main organizers and will be regarded as highly confidential. Disclosure of the name or any other personal details apart from the Health Authorities is prohibited.

We require all participants to clean touched surfaces (e.g. commonly used furniture, Game Corner input devices, door handles and toilet flush buttons), and regularly wash their hands thoroughly with soap. Disinfectant will be provided on critical and accessible spots.

Visitors are asked to use Screen Share-services for collaboration purposes, rather than gathering over one screen.

Visitors are also kindly asked to wear their masks in public spaces, transport, localities and businesses that are not related to MountainBytes and to keep distance to others (independent from guidelines by the Canton or Federation).

It is also appreciated if participants pick up on test offers e.g. in airports when arriving or departing from Switzerland, and inform us immediately in case of a positive test result.

We also suggest the installation of our visitors' respective national Corona-Proximity App. It should also stay active during their stay in Switzerland, to ensure a fairly wide-spread coverage amongst attending nations. The installation of the SwissCovid-App additionally to their own national app is not recommended, as currently the apps are unable to communicate with each other, and the participant would lose the keys from their former encounters when deinstalling.

### **Soft Measures**

The original plan to sell alcoholic beverages at the average middle-European cost has been disregarded. We hope to achieve a certain restraint in consumption and behaviour from this. It is and remains allowed to bring their own food and beverages. Consuming hard alcoholica has always been prohibited at our events.

Music volume will be reduced between the event highlights, so participants are able to talk at normal volume.

We will place seating options in the Lorzensaal lounge, to offer alternatives for collaboration other than at the desks. With this, we can subtly enforce social distancing.

Some competitions, such as 3D-Print, Interactive and Surprise Compo will be moved from the main hall to the lounge or outside. 3D-Prints will be showcased on tables in the lounge, a game corner with consoles and computers to actually play the Interactive entries will be built. The Surprise-Compo will take place on Saturday afternoon in front of the building. With this, we lighten the program and encourage visitors to regularly leave the hall for fresh air.

Instead of having our visitors enjoy the competitions on the floor or on chairs in front of the big screen, we will organize deckchairs and open up the gallery above the seating area.

### **Behaviour Rules - Personnel and helpers**

Personnel and helpers with customer contact (Infodesk, Compo) are required to wear masks during their work. Competition entries are normally submitted via our internal party network, this will further limit direct interaction.

While we cannot insist on this, we are kindly asking our team to not engage in high-risk activity and large gatherings for 10 days before the event.

Substitution for critical personnel in quarantine has been secured at this point of the planning.

Sale of beverages: Whenever change, empty bottles or other items are handed from visitors to our personnel, they are required to disinfect their hands and must not touch their faces or other items. Disinfectant is being provided.

The same is valid when returning from a break.

We will provide open containers for the return of deposit bottles to further minimize direct contact.

### **Contact Tracing**

The following data will be collected from our visitors during the ticket purchase:

First and Last Name  
Street Address  
Postal Code, City  
Country  
Telephone number  
E-Mail Address

The data will only be saved for the purpose of contact tracing according to the minimum duration mandated by the Canton, beside from the invoicing purpose.

The telephone numbers will be verified about two weeks prior to the event via SMS. Should we be unable to reach the ticket holder, we will try and get in touch via email. Entrance will only be permitted after telephone number validation.

### **Contactless Payments**

Payments with TWINT or a self-build prepaid solution is currently under investigation, in order to minimize cash money exchanges.

Similar events have had good experiences with the latter option.

### **Entrance, Verification of Personal Data**

At the start of the event on Friday, we will open two box offices: one for pre-ordered tickets, one for box office sale. Floor markings will enforce the minimum distance. People with pre-ordered tickets will receive a sealed bag assigned to their name, containing their wristbands, system access keys and any ordered merchandise. Like this, we are able to manage entrance and verification at the same time efficiently.

We aim to secure the majority of our ticket sales before the event to answer for the tracing requirements (~80-90%).

### **Special Considerations due to the International Nature of our Event**

Our event welcomes an audience not only from Switzerland, but from all across Europe.

At the time of this revision, guidelines by the Canton and the Federation are not as strict as in many of the participating countries.

We understand this as an opportunity to install and monitor further measures as common in other nations.

We currently anticipate participation from the following countries:

Switzerland (ca. 30%)

Germany (ca. 40%)

France (ca. 15%)

Italy (ca. 10%)

Others (Portugal, Ireland, Austria, Finland,etc - ca. 5%)

This list will be updated according to our pre-sale figures, the final overview will be available by January 2021.

On top of reporting obligations, we will also host our own Tracing- and Information system, to not lose time in the event of a potential infection. The information will be provided to all participants via e-mail, as one of the following scenarios occurs:

#### **Green:**

- No incidents or assumed infections 10 days prior and after the event have been reported.  
**All data will be deleted at the end of the required minimum retention period.**

#### **Yellow:**

- A visitor's Tracing-App or their respective Health Authority reported a high-risk contact to an infected person 10 days prior or until the end of the event, but not at the event itself.
- Visitors report flu-like symptoms or signs of COVID-19.  
**Visitors are asked to quarantine and get tested in case of light symptoms.**

#### **Red:**

- A visitor's Tracing-App or their respective Health Authority report contact to an infected person at or in relation with the event.

- A visitor reports an infection or positive test result within 10 days before or after the event.  
**Visitors are asked to quarantine and get tested with or without symptoms. The responsible Health Authority in Zug will be informed immediately.**

**Organization Contact and History of Revision**

**Legal Entity/Organizer:**

Echtzeit - Digitale Kultur  
 3000 Bern  
 e-mail: [info@echtzeitkultur.org](mailto:info@echtzeitkultur.org)

**General Management and Administration**

Jenny Marinitsch  
 e-mail: [shana@mountainbytes.ch](mailto:shana@mountainbytes.ch)  
 Tel. 078 666 53 03

**Technical Management and Realisation**

Mario Spuler  
 e-mail: [psykon@mountainbytes.ch](mailto:psykon@mountainbytes.ch)

**Revision History**

Revision	Change	Date
1	New Document	12.09.2020