As physical workplaces reopen, employee concerns rise. The remainder of 2020 and early 2021 will see a focus on touchless technologies to enable a safe return to work.

Most enterprises lack touchless sign-in devices to enter the workplace for the remainder of 2020. Elevator buttons, doors, sign-in devices, and keypads are the most commonly touched surfaces and currently the main areas of concern among employees. These include:

- Door handles (82%)
- Access control systems like keypads (46%)
- Elevator buttons (43%)
- Sign-in devices or kiosks (31%)

Physical security spending on the rise. 87% of respondents cited the frequency of physical interaction between C-level executives and the physical security function is higher than before the pandemic. 91% of respondents say that physical security is of greater strategic importance now than it was before the pandemic.

The top three physical security investments planned for the next 6 to 12 months include:

- Touchless sign-in technology enables a safe return to work. 94% of respondents plan to invest in touchless sign-in technology.
- 85% plan to purchase elevators with touchless technology.
- 96% plan to install touchless access control systems like keypads.

Physical security is now a strategic imperative. 62% of respondents say physical security is of greater strategic importance now than it was before the pandemic. 92% plan to increase spending on physical security.

For more information, read the press release and the Employee Safety & Security Spotlight COVID-19 Impact Report.