

ZARAGOZA CITY COUNCIL

Zaragoza is positioned as a national reference in the defense of air quality against the criterion of capacity

The consistory has commissioned the College of Industrial Engineers of Aragon and La Rioja a manual of good practices so that the entrepreneurs of the city have guidelines in air management

The City Council has gathered in a working day scientists of the "highest level" who have once again defended the importance of managing air flows in the establishments instead of the idea of maximum capacity per establishment.

Zaragoza, Tuesday, April 13, 2021.-

Zaragoza City Council has commissioned the College of Industrial Engineers of Aragon and La Rioja a guide of good practices that will help entrepreneurs to properly carry out air quality management in their businesses and establishments. The request, as they have advanced from the consistory, responds to further progress on measures aimed at air regulation and not capacity measures. "It's time to give more importance to air quality and less to the restrictions of our entrepreneurs, our bars, our hoteliers. It is time for more vaccines and fewer restrictions," said the mayor of Zaragoza, Jorge Azcón, who has chaired the working day with scientists, engineers and hoteliers.

The meeting is the third technical-scientific table organized from the consistory and the Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Employment with which a concrete response has been given to the hoteliers. Councilor Carmen Herrarte explained that a few weeks ago a report was presented from the School of Fluid Mechanics of the University of Zaragoza that demonstrated the importance of working with airflows to avoid contagion and not with capacity measures. "That report said there was no scientific basis. A letter signed by 100 scientists made it clear that we were right. It's time to regulate, to give security to our entrepreneurs," Added Herrarte. "That's why we've commissioned the best practice manual, because that document will give you the guidelines for proper air management within establishments and businesses," he said.

In this line, the researcher, professor and advisor of the City of Zaragoza, Juan José Badiola has explained that "it is not understood that the authorities have not taken the issue of air quality more seriously. The School of Fluid Mechanics has said so, it has been signed by more than 100 scientists, the issue of capacity maximums per establishment is not understood by anyone." "It's much more practical to base analyses on air quality measurements and let people know at all times what CO2 levels are," Badiola said. "People don't understand The maximum capacity measures per establishment, they go up, they come down; it's more realistic to take on the issue of airflows," the adviser has closed.

In this sense, the dean of the College of Industrial Engineers of Aragon and La Rioja, Salvador Galve, who will be in charge of carrying out the manual of good practices, has praised the work and commitment that the City of Zaragoza is having to "defend the management of air quality and the benefits that it can have in the face of the measures of capacity imposed per

establishment". In this way he has said that the benefit is double, "safe for entrepreneurs and for citizens".

CoviBlock Seal

During the day, the newly released label "We are CoviBlock" has also been presented, a project launched by the Aragon Institute of Health Research. The researcher of the Alberto J. Schumacher Institute has been responsible for publishing it at the forum. In this case, the seal will ensure that the space to which the badge is granted will be equipped with the necessary measures to maintain good air quality, having constant control of CO2 and, therefore, a low risk of covid-19 contagion.

Interested entities can now apply for this stamp. To achieve this, companies that want to implement it on their premises must undergo an initial diagnosis of CO2 levels. Subsequently, after several days of analysis of the establishment measuring air quality, the scientific team establishes a protocol of preventive measures and helps the promoter or company to launch them and finally obtain the granting of the seal.

Technologies underway

Taking advantage of the use of representatives from the different hospitality and hospitality associations of Zaragoza and Teruel, Clean Air has presented the DuctFIT CAS project. It is a technology that, effectively and definitively eliminates viruses and bacteria, both in the air and on surfaces, and is compatible with the presence of people in the areas to be disinfected since it has no harmful chemicals.

In fact, an establishment in Zaragoza, Canterbury Salamero, is already applying it to give greater security and coverage to its customers. This virus removal system is certified by international laboratories and universities, has even been tested with "satisfactory results" at the Virgen de las Nieves Hospital in Granada and in many multinational companies.