

**Circular From NORTH****Date: 27 April 2020**

Coronavirus Outbreak - Impact on Shipping (Update) - 3

In response to the 2019-nCoV novel coronavirus outbreak, a number of countries, ports and organisations are publishing details of the measures being put in place.

The below is a brief summary of information we have received so far that has the potential to impact ship operations.

Last updated: 23 April 2020

Country	Informing party	Date	Summary of advice
Algeria	Neffous Shipping & Consulting (P&I)	5-Apr	27 Feb: The port of Annaba notified all local agents that following the sanitary services advise, all vessels who called Italian ports will be put on quarantine on road till the release into free pratique is obtained. 29 March: all the Ports Authorities have prohibited the loading and the discharging operations between 01:00 hours and 07:00 hours in some ports and from 19:00 hours to 07:00 hours in other ports and the Algerian government has imposed the following precautionary measures: • The Sanitary Authorities and the Coast Guards, board all the vessels at roads to check whether the vessel and the crew came from or transited through a contaminated country for at least the last 14 days. • Always at roads, the Health Authorities medically examine all crew members to ensure that they show no symptoms or suffer from the corona virus, whether the ship came or not from a contaminated area. • In the event, the crew presents no risk of contamination, the Authorities impose to all members to wear masks and gloves as soon as the vessel berths. • Crew cannot go ashore, unless requested by his service.

- No one can board or leave the vessel if his temperature is above 38 °C or shows signs of breathing difficulties.

5 April: a curfew implemented has amended from 15:00 to 07:00 for Bejaia, Oran and Algiers.

Argentina	Pandi Liquidadores S.R.L Marine Risk & Insurance Solutions	17-Apr	7 April: Pandi Liquidadores S.R.L advise that they provide an up to date COVID-19 section (www.pandi.com.ar). They summarise the current situation as follows: • Argentina is under a mandatory social isolation / quarantine which will be in place, in principle, until 13th April 2020 (after being extended from its original ending date). However, it is expected that after 13 April restrictions will continue in place and would be lifted gradually, depending on the developments of the spread. • The Government has considered that those activities which are urgent to enable international trade are exempted, therefore, ports and ships are operating. In principle, all ships calling Argentine ports must present specific pre-arrival information (72 hours before arriving) including the last 10 ports called, crew changes, ship's medical book, crew/passenger temperature records among others. • Those ships which have called one of the areas considered specially affected by the outbreak (EU Members, Schengen Members, UK and North Ireland, USA, Korea, Japan, Iran, Chile and Brazil) would be subject to physical health inspection at Recalada Pilot Station (outer River Plate) by Coast Guards on behalf of health authorities. If the pre-arrival documentation on any ship, and the physical inspection for those calling from the "affected areas" do not reveal any Covid-19 case, or suspected case, the ship would in principle authorize to receive Pilots and proceed to port, where additional health inspections may take place. Otherwise the ship will be quarantined at the disposal of Health Authorities. • Some ports have been affected by different players, such as unions, professional associations or locally-based authorities which request for any ship calling an "affected area" to have at least 14 days transit time since they departed from the last port. This would normally affect ships calling from Brazil – and Chile at some extent (due to short transit time). These ports are Necochea, Bahia Blanca, San Nicolas, Campana, Zarate, Rosario and San Lorenzo and other nearby ports may have the same tendency.
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- Borders remain closed and there virtually no commercial flights. Therefore, crew changes or repatriations are not normally possible.
- Surveyors' attendance on board would be subject to the particular circumstances of the case, and the possibility for them to attend at port or on board may be limited. Not only due to the risk of contracting the virus, but also because the isolation is mandatory and its breach is being prosecuted criminally by our authorities.
- Courts and Administrative entities have entered into an extraordinary recess during the mandatory isolation. No activity is taking place thereon unless urgent and unavoidable.

13 April: Pandi Liquidadores S.R.L advise:

- Mandatory quarantine imposed in all Argentina territory. Extended for a third period until 27th April. Urgent services concerning international trade exempted.
- Port/ships operations: open
- Restrictions: apply depending on ship's previous ports, pre-arrival health information, transit time, etc. Despite of the National Protocol which does not provide for quarantine of those vessels calling from any port with less than 14 days with no symptoms on board (and medical/port/crew records to the satisfaction of Health Authorities) various parties in different ports are taking a different approach, as far as we know as follows:
 - Necochea & Bahia Blanca ports: Health Authorities request ships calling from "affected areas" a 14-day transit form last port of call. Stevedores, however, refuse to provide services to any ship calling with less than 14 days transit time. Due to conflict with stevedores some terminals may operate with restrictions (working hours).
 - San Nicolas port (public berths): port authorities request ships calling a 14-day transit time from any previous port.
- Surveyor attendance: Still attending but every day becoming more restricted the availability of surveyors to go on board.

"Affected areas": EU members, Schengen members, UK and North Ireland, United States of America, Korea, Japan, China, Iran, Chile and Brazil.

Australia	Aus Ship P&I GAC	6-Apr	The Australian Government has announced that all persons entering Australia must undertake a precautionary self-isolation period for 14 days upon entry to the country. This applies to any person entering Australia, including Australian citizens and permanent residents. Persons who are entering Australia for less than 14 days must self-isolate for the entire duration of their stay. These measures apply to all people entering Australia including via aircraft and vessels. The travel restrictions for mainland China, Iran, the Republic of Korea and Italy remain in place for all travellers including maritime crew.
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For all commercial vessels arriving from any port outside Australia:

- All vessel masters must answer health screening questions as part of their entry reporting.
- ABF and Biosecurity officers remain responsible for border clearance processes. Vessels that report ill persons with relevant symptoms will undergo a human health inspection by a Biosecurity Officer on arrival in Australia, and before the vessel is granted pratique.

Crew members on a vessel:

- All crew must remain on-board while the vessel is berthed in Australia.
- Crew are able to disembark to conduct vessel functions and crew must wear personal protective equipment while performing these functions.
- Crew must also use personal protective equipment in public spaces on board the vessel whilst non-crew members are on board.
- These restrictions apply until 14 days has elapsed since the vessel departed the last port before Australia, unless crew are unwell or there is a suspected case of COVID-19 on-board.
- The period maritime crew spend at sea prior to their arrival in Australia counts towards the 14-day period of self-isolation. In practice, if a vessel has travelled for ten days since last being in a foreign port, the period of precautionary self-isolation for its crew members would be the remaining four days.
- Once the 14 days has elapsed and provided all crew are well and there is no sign of illness in any crew member, crew are permitted to take shore leave.
- Where a crew member is signing off a vessel (within the 14 day

period) and remaining in Australia they must self-isolate at their accommodation for the remainder of the 14 day self-isolation period.

- Crew members departing Australia may proceed directly to the airport and depart; or they must self-isolate at their accommodation until the time they proceed to the airport.

Crew travelling to Australia (by aircraft) to join a vessel must adhere to the following arrangements:

- On arrival in Australia crew may take a domestic flight/s to their final destination to meet their vessel but must self-isolate at their accommodation if they have a layover at any time.
- Crew must proceed directly to the vessel or their accommodation.
- If not joining the vessel immediately, crew must self-isolate at their accommodation.
- Once on the vessel, crew members may leave the vessel to undertake vessel functions and must wear personal protective equipment while performing these functions.
- International crew members joining a commercial vessel voyage are subject to a 14 day self-isolation period. Crew are permitted to transit through Australia but must remain in the port or airport, or self-isolate in accommodation for the duration of their transit. Crew must self-isolate at their final destination for the remainder of the 14 days.

Crew arriving in Australia are being urged to ensure they have a valid visa well ahead of their arrival, as the Department of Home Affairs Maritime Global Processing Centre (MGPC) will close for the Easter holiday from 4pm on Thursday 9 April until start of business on Tuesday 14 April. No Maritime Crew Visas (MCVs) will be processed during this period.

Applications for crew arriving in Australia on a vessel by sea should be lodged at least 14 days prior to departure from a port overseas in order to avoid any issues with delays to processing, crew travelling and/or arriving without visas, or associated punitive action.

This means applications should be lodged no later than Tuesday 24 March for crew intending to arrive in Australia from an overseas port between 9 and 14 April 2020.

The Australian Border Force will remain operational 24/7 basis over the holiday period.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, travel restrictions are in place for all travelers to Australia. For the latest information on these restrictions [click here](#)

Monday 23 March, Marine Safety Queensland (MSQ) and the Queensland State Government have softened their position in relation to the Port of Brisbane.

Due to different trade patterns for the port, it has been deemed appropriate to adopt the federal position for the Port of Brisbane only (all other Queensland ports maintain the 14 day isolation policy for all vessels arriving from overseas).

This means that from Monday 23 March, vessels arriving at the Port of Brisbane, other than those arriving from China and South Korea, will be allowed to berth and commence cargo operations provided all non-essential crew remain on board and in self-isolation. Crew essential to the operations of the vessel will be permitted to carry out essential tasks provided they observe social distancing and wear appropriate PPE.

This is of course provided there is no sickness reported onboard.

Bangladesh JF 14-Apr
h (Bangladesh)
Limited

Chittagong

Circular dated 30.01.2020 issued by Chittagong Port Authority states that in order to prevent the Coronavirus in the country, all the Shipping Agents will have to provide information stating that "Ship's Master and his Crew members are free from Coronavirus" at the time of giving declaration of arrival of the vessel. The Radio Control will confirm this with the Master on arrival of the vessel at outer anchorage and then will record the same in the "Fresh Arrival Book".

Chittagong Port Authority announce suspension of crew changes of Merchant Ships calling at Chittagong Port for eight (8) weeks from 21 March. If a crew change is unavoidable, a 14 day self-isolation period is required. Foreign ships arriving at the Chattogram port will be quarantined for 16 days. If the ship does not take 16 days after leaving a foreign port, it will have to wait at outer anchorage of Chattogram port to complete the quarantine period.

Masters of all vessels calling at Mongla Port must submit before arrival at Fairway Buoy:

- 'De-ratting' Exemption Certificate

- Free Pratique Certificate
- Master's declaration that the onboard crew are free from Coronavirus
- From 19 March, shore passes will not be issued for any crew on board ships calling at Mongla Port. It has also been notified that crew change have been suspended and joining crew will not be permitted to enter Port Area/ Premises. Thus crew change at Mongla Port is no longer possible

25 March: The Ministry of Industries, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh has imposed BAN on importation of any Scrap/Demolition Vessel and opening of Letter of Credit effective from 23.03.2020 till 07.04.2020.

27 March: The Department of Shipping, issued detailed guidance for ships calling at Chittagong, Payra and Mongla ports. It includes requirements and the Maritime Declaration of Health form which must be forwarded at least 72 hours prior arrival of the vessel at the port. If the maritime declaration of health given by the master is found to be incorrect and not reflecting the factual conditions of health of persons on board the vessel, the master is liable to be prosecuted as per applicable laws.

6 April: The Ministry of Industries of the Government of Bangladesh has banned the import of scrap ships In order to prevent the transmission of Coronavirus (Covid-19) – all activities of imported vessels for the purpose of recycling are to be stopped.

Belgium	GAC	24-Mar	Antwerp: All incoming ships must present a Maritime Declaration of Health (MDH), which the master must submit 24 hours before entering the port, stating whether there are any actual or suspected cases of illness on board together with a list of the last ten ports. The ship is checked for this by Saniport. If there are any suspicions, the ship may be obliged to remain off the coast and a doctor may go on board. The ship will not get a pilot and will not be permitted to enter port.
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The Port of Antwerp Covid-19 Taskforce [has] confirmed on 23 March that the port remains 100% operational thanks to the daily efforts and commitment of all employees. Handling on the terminals is going ahead normally, there is sufficient manpower available to deal with cargo, and drivers are arriving and departing without too much delay.

However, several points for attention are being monitored, including:

- The different approaches of Belgium and the Netherlands. Port of Antwerp is served by Flemish and Dutch pilots. The Dutch position starts from a controlled contamination, while the Flemish standard is much stricter.
- Manpower: at the moment everything is under control. The availability and allocation of employees is essential for correct functioning of all port services. In addition, fall-back scenarios are being drawn up to assure continuity of service.

Brazil Brazmar 6-Apr Law firm SMA have provided advice on what to expect from Brazilian authorities should infection be suspected on board.

Proinde have a [dedicated webpage](#) for latest news

20 March, referring port operations, the Ministry of Infrastructure classified logistics services as essential for the country, reporting that measures will be adopted to safeguard the stevedores and workers on site, guaranteeing the vessels operations.

The health authorities' procedures remain the same, with the master reporting medical conditions on board upon arrival at anchorage, aiming to obtain the free pratique. Vessel's with possible cases of Coronavirus, will be submitted to quarantine and the infected crewmember moved to a hospital for treatment.

27 March: ANVISA Technical Note 47 and the National Commission of Authorities in Ports – CONAPORTOS Resolution No.2 (both kindly translated by Brazmar) which includes detailed guideline with measures to be adopted for the control and prevention of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), as applicable to ports and vessels.

Proinde P&I summarise ANVISA Technical Note 47 as follows:

- The Maritime Declaration of Health must be carefully filled out by the master and reviewed by the authority before health clearance
- Cargo vessels arriving from abroad will only be able to berth and operate provided no crewmember disembarks for 14 days from the date of vessel's departure from the last port of call abroad, except where the landing of a crewmember is essential to the operation
- In case of a COVID-19 health event on board during the journey or during the vessel's stay in the port:
 - the crew will not be able to disembark for another 14

- days from the onset of symptoms of the last case, except for medical assistance
- the free pratique will only be granted after a satisfactory sanitary inspection
- the infected crewmember should be isolated, ideally in a cabin, and wear a medical mask. ANVISA will determine whether the infected person will be quarantined aboard or moved to a referral hospital
- vessels with cases of COVID-19 will not be allowed to leave the port
- During the port stay, the crews should keep minimum contact and a two-metre distance from the port workers, pilots and other shore visitors
- Persons working on or visiting foreign vessels, including shore workers and pilots, should wear PPE as directed by ANVISA
- Supply of water and stores and removal of solid residues and effluents require ANVISA prior approval
- Renewal (or extension) of ship sanitation certificates must be arranged well in advance of the expiration date due to ongoing disruptions in public services.

31 March: Proinde P&I advise that:

- Operations at Brazilian public and private ports and cargo handling facilities continue without disruptions other than the reduction of the labour force, particularly in administrative routines.
- Disinfection and heightened safety and health protocols are in place in most private and public ports.
- Despite the slowdown in the workforce in public administration and regulatory agencies, no significant problems related to the clearance and delivery of overseas cargoes have been sensed so far.
- Customs-bonded ports and terminals are operating without congestions beyond usual, while cargo transport in the cabotage and inland waterways remains undisturbed.
- On 26 March 2020, the government placed an exceptional 30-day ban, with immediate effect, on the disembark of all foreign crewmembers arriving at Brazilian ports and points of entry, except those seeking medical assistance or in an air connection to their country of origin.

In view of the temporary prohibition of entry by air of non-resident foreign nationals imposed on 27 March and beginning on 30 March

2020, embark of crewmembers in Brazil will also not be possible for at least the next 30 days.

2 April: Brazil P&I issue a circular is intended to provide guidance and recommendation regarding the acceptance of digitalized documents according to new Brazilian legislation, Decree 10.278, from 18 March 2020.

3 April, Promare reported on the impacts of Covid-19 in the Brazilian North and Northeast Ports of Brazil, highlighting that the cancellation of flights was beginning to impact on pilotage services in the North region, mainly in Santana, Santarém and Macapá. This issue will directly impact the grain and fertilizer market that use the logistics of the Northern Arc, due to probable delays on the port of Santarém.

The pilot company from Pilotage Zone 1 (UNIPLOT) has formally advised that in case there are no pilots available in Fazendinha (which is the entrance to the Amazon Port Region) for the manoeuvre towards the loading berth, the Shipping Agency requesting the service will have to pay for the chartered flight for the 2 pilots. After bringing the vessel to the inner anchorage/ berth, the 2 pilots will wait in the city for 36 hours in order to attend any immediate demands, such as shifting vessels to berth, unberthing to inner anchorage, or even bringing another vessel to Fazendinha to exit the Amazon Region. When the vessel operation is completed, if there are pilots available, they will board the vessel without extra costs. If not, there will be extra costs again to bring other 2 pilots for sailing procedures to the city.

Pilotage information is that when the use of chartered flights is necessary, the costs will be relayed to the Owners/Charterers of the vessels. Estimated flight prices:

Belém/Macapá/Belém | Time of Flight: 00:50 | Cost: R\$ 13.318,00

Belém/Santarém/Belém | Time of Flight: 01:45 | Cost: R\$ 26.875,15

Macapá/Santarém/Macapá | Time of Flight: 01:15 | Cost: R\$ 18.747,49

Belém/Manaus/Belém | Time of Flight: 03:15 | Cost: R\$ 49.140,00

Due to all this situation, the schedule of manoeuvres of pilots in the North region, mainly in Santarém (at the CDP and Cargill terminals) is expected to suffer major delays.

Cameroon	Ivory P&I	24-Mar	A notice has been issued by the Port of Douala that advises of following measures to be taken:
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- Vessels from “countries at risk” must wait at base buoy for a minimum of 14 days before being allowed to proceed into the channel.
- After 14 days, port health service will board vessel at base buoy to consider clearance.
- Upon berthing, the port health service will be the first to board. Other administrations and services must wait for free pratique before boarding.
- Deliveries to the vessel at base buoy is prohibited.
- Crew changes must be carried out under full supervision of port health service.

Cameroon closed its borders to all passengers from 18 March 2020. Announcing the measures, Prime Minister Joseph Dion Ngute said: “All passenger flights from abroad will be suspended except for cargo flights and ships carrying daily consumer goods as well as essential goods and materials, whose stopover times will be limited and supervised.”

Canada GAC

8-Apr

31 March: Transport Canada has created a website that provides updates on transportation-related measures it has taken in response to COVID-19 <https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/initiatives/covid-19-measures-updates-guidance-tc.html>

GAC have provided extracts from Transport Canada Special Marine Security Notification No: 2020-006:

- As per the Quarantine Act, prior to arrival of a vessel at its destination in Canada, the vessel operator must inform a quarantine officer, or cause a quarantine officer to be informed if any person, cargo or other things on board the conveyance could cause the spreading of a communicable disease (such as COVID-19).
- Foreign and Canadian flagged vessels are to pay particular attention to ensuring that all required components of the 96 Pre-Arrival Information Report (PAIR) and 24 Hour Report are completed in accordance with section 221 of the Marine Transportation Security Regulations (MTSR).
- Reporting of illnesses aboard a vessel to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) should be made through the existing PAIR reporting process to Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security (TCMSS).
- Based on that information provided, PHAC will provide follow-on direction to the vessel.
- In the event that PHAC determines a crew member or passenger

onboard a vessel to be at risk, notification will be provided to other (this may include but is not limited to the CBSA, CCG, TC Marine Safety, and appropriate pilotage and port authorities).

- Should a vessel have an ill or symptomatic crew member or passenger after having arrived in Canada, Masters should inform the appropriate local health authority and the ship's agent for further direction.
- Ships' agents are asked to inform the applicable pilotage authority of the state of the ship's health when requesting pilots for harbour movements or for the outbound passage.
- Vessel Masters with crew members and passengers symptomatic of the Coronavirus are to advise Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security following transmission of the 96 hour PAIR.
- Anyone who had close contact with someone who has or is suspected to have COVID-19 must self-isolate for 14 days. Self-isolate means that, for 14 days, they need to:
 - Stay at home (or aboard vessel) and monitor yourself for symptoms, even if mild
 - Avoid contact with other people to help prevent transmission of the virus at the earliest stage of illness.

1 April: Aqualis Braemar advise that:

- Canadian ports remain open. The Canadian government has confirmed the importance of the shipping industry as vital to the economy by keeping ports open and facilitating shipping activity. There are, however, precautions which must be taken.
- Drydock and repair facilities are working on reduced manning / split shifts to enable social distancing. Most remain open, but delays in repair and construction work are expected.

7 April: Transport Canada has issued a Ship Safety Bulletin giving guidance on the mobility of asymptomatic workers in the marine sector during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Exemption is granted allowing Marine Sector Workers who have to travel to Canada to perform their duties, to board an international flight destined to Canada.
- No traveller can board a flight/enter Canada if they have a fever and cough or a fever and breathing difficulties.
- Asymptomatic crew are also permitted to transit to the nearest airport for the purpose of crew change-over.
- Anyone who has close contact with someone who has or is

suspected to have COVID-19 must self-isolate for 14 days. Operators should arrange local transport for crew members that avoids large groups, crowded areas, and public transit.

- For shore leave for seafarers onboard foreign vessels, at Canadian ports, terminals and marine facilities, until 30 June 2020, symptomatic and asymptomatic foreign nationals (except those exempted) may not enter Canada if shore leave is considered discretionary.
- Essential shore leave may be granted to an asymptomatic seafarer and is not to exceed four hours in duration.
- Crew onboard Canadian domestic vessels should follow the advice of their employer and local health officials.
- A complete ban on shore leave in the Canadian Arctic is in effect until December 31, 2020. Crews that are residents of Arctic and northern communities could be exempt.

Chile	Cave & Co	3-Apr	18 February: The only preventive measures regard the protection of personnel at the country's immigration points.
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2 April: JRR Abogados advise of recent transitory measure implemented by Customs through its Resolution 1179, whereby it has authorised electronic exchanges and amendments to bills of lading. There are several grey areas regarding its interpretation and practical implementation, including with regard to potential delivery of cargo without surrender of the original bill of lading.

China	Huatai Insurance Agency and Consultant Service Ltd	6-Apr	Huatai summarises the protection and control measures implemented by the port Authorities of each major Chinese port: Health declarations
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1. Health declaration before berthing:
 - Tianjin and Xiamen Health Declaration Form is required before vessel's berthing.
 - Dalian the Customs officers will attend on board the vessel and take temperature of each crew.
2. Vessels with crew from Wuhan or Hubei Province on board would be monitored especially.
 - Putian and Quanzhou of Fujian Province: may not be allowed to take berth.
 - Ningbo the vessel probably has to be isolated for 14 days before taking berth.
3. Substitution of crew is limited.

- Shanghai, Xiamen, Ningbo, Tianjin, Dalian forbidden by the port Authorities.
 - Qingdao and Guangzhou forbidden in principle, unless under some special circumstances.
4. Crew disembarkation is strictly restricted by all ports
 5. During berth in the port, the crew should take preventive measures.
 - Dalian, Xiamen, Guangzhou: The crew must wear a facial mask when they have contact with others in the port.
 - Tianjin: The crew must wear a facial mask and temperature test should be taken every day. When any crew has fever, the Customs should be informed immediately.

Port congestion / port operation

1. The loading/discharging operation slow down due to lack of stevedores
2. The land transportation of cargo into the port or from the port is insufficient since trucks without local license are restricted to enter into the port area.
3. As vessels are restricted to call at Wuhan port, transshipment of cargo by inland river feeder vessels in and out the ports in the Yangtze River is affected.

Ports affected:

- Shanghai, Tianjin, Huanghua, Lianyungang, Jingtang and Caofeidian

Ports not affected:

- Dalian, Qingdao, Xiamen and Guangzhou

Supply of Provisions

Generally speaking, supply of provisions to foreign vessels is not restricted.

- Tianjin: Demand of Supply of Provisions be declared 24 hours in advance.
- Qingdao and ports nearby: Has limit to some of the provisions. Please check with local agents.
- Dalian: The provisions should be quarantined by Customs as usual.

Ship Repair

Due to lack of workers, the schedule of ship repair might be affected.

- Zhoushan as the local Government restricted the entrance of vehicles with license of other places and people from other places, the efficiency of the shipyards in Zhoushan decreased substantially.

Cargo Preparing

Some exported cargo could not be delivered to the loading ports in time due to transportation restriction in and out of Hubei Province. It is reported that China Council for the Promotion of International Trade would offer force majeure certificates to local companies, if they are unable to fulfil their international contractual obligations due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Huatai experiences of recent issues and cases (as of 13 Feb 2020) can be read by using link on the left. It includes two cases from Xiamen and Shanghai office that suggest that crew on board with cough or fever will cause several hours delay of discharging operation until the crew were excluded from NCP infection by medical examination. Also a case where a vessel was delayed 10 days due to an engineer from Hubei Province on board

We suggest Members whose vessels are scheduled to call at Chinese ports in the near future, to keep close contact with their local agent so as to get the latest port information, and to remind their crewmembers to take necessary protection measures.

Guidance was issued by the MSA of the People's Republic of China on March 2, 2020: Operational Guidance for Ships and Seafarers for prevention and Control of COVID- 19 Epidemic. It is with reference to the WHO and IMO Guidance on the prevention and control of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic on ships, and based on the practical experience of shipping companies on the prevention and control of the epidemic. The Guidance aims to provide advice for the prevention and control of COVID-19 epidemic on ships and guidance for the personal protection of crew.

On March 20, 2020, the Shanghai authorities responsible for such matters issued a notice regarding new requirements and procedures to be followed making it possible in certain circumstances for crew change to take place at Shanghai port.

For ships not arriving from a “severe outbreak” country, crew changes

can be arranged in the normal manner. However, if the ship is arriving from a “severe outbreak” country, crew changes should be minimized as much as possible, but are still possible subject to necessary quarantine measures.

Currently, 24 countries are on the “severe outbreak” list which includes South Korea, Italy, Iran, Japan, France, Spain, Germany, USA, UK, Switzerland, Sweden, Belgium, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, Austria, Australia, Malaysia, Greece, Czech Republic, Finland, Qatar, Canada, Saudi Arabia. This list is subject to update according to development globally.

Colombia	SAPIC	15-Apr	Measure taken by the Colombian Maritime Authority – inspections to the merchant ships will entail an exhaustive verification by the port health authority (first authority to board the ship) on the health condition of the seafarers that have recently been in Asian ports.
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Close the maritime, land and river crossings of the borders with the Republic of Panama, Republic of Ecuador, Republic of Peru and the Federative Republic of Brazil from 00:00 on 17 March 2020 until 30 May 2020.

The following are excepted from the closing of the maritime, terrestrial and fluvial border crossings:

1. Transits that must be carried out for reasons of fortuitous events or force majeure.
2. Carriage of cargo.

7 April: Mandatory Preventive Isolation or quarantine is established for all the inhabitants of the country till 26 April, limiting free movement of people and vehicles in the national territory, with exceptions that seek to guarantee the right to life, health and survival of the country's inhabitants.

During this period, domestic air transport is suspended, being limited to cases of humanitarian emergency, transport of cargo and merchandise, and in fortuitous cases or force majeure. International air operations are fully enabled but there are restrictions on the entry of passengers and flights from abroad. Likewise, there is the temporary suspension of flights from some countries such as: Italy, Spain, Chile and Peru. Similarly, flights to different countries are still allowed, with the aim that foreign citizens can return to their places of origin.

With respect to other means of transport, it is indicated that the public

service of land, cable, river and sea passenger transport, postal services and parcel distribution must be guaranteed in the national territory, which are strictly necessary to prevent, mitigate and attend to the health emergency due to the coronavirus COVID-19.

It is highlighted that among the exceptions established in the Decree, the activities of the ports of public and private service are exclusively for cargo transportation. Free Pratique will be subject to Sanitation officer's approval. Health declaration is requested and must be sent on daily basis and three (3) hours before ship's arrival. No cruise vessel are allowed. No shore leave. The local agent at some ports are only allowed to board during clearing of vessel and carry out the key meeting, further assistance by agent will continue in a remote way.

Cyprus	Kalimbassier is Maritime	18-Mar	Latest directive was issued by the Ministry of Health today and comes into effect as from tomorrow, 14th March which provides as follows: Category 1: Mandatory quarantine, under medical supervision, at their home (if available) or at a place designated by the Ministry of Health for 14 days after departure from any of the below countries irrespective of any apparent symptoms: • Hubei Province of China • Italy • Iran • Republic of Korea. Category 2: Self-isolation and telephone surveillance at their home or place designated by the Ministry of Health (avoiding close contact and travel, observing basic hygiene rules, monitoring and reporting symptoms at hotline 1420) for 14 days after departure from the following countries: • China (excluding Hubei Province) • Japan • Hong Kong • Germany • France • Spain • Greece (Territory of Achaia, Ilias and Zakynthos) • United Kingdom • Switzerland
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	EMCO Group		

Category 3: Self-monitoring (with instructions for adhering to basic

hygiene rules and restricting travel to the most necessary) and in the event of symptoms to call hotline at 1420, for 14 days after leaving the following countries:

- Greece (excluding Achaia, Ilia and Zakynthos)
- Netherlands
- Sweden
- Belgium
- Singapore

The Directive provides that all passengers in categories 1 and 2 will be directed to the doctor's airport office whereas at ports self-isolation will be limited to cabins.

Given the above any passengers / crew arriving from Italy will not be disembarked unless the 14 day period has passed, irrespective of any sign of symptoms. No directive or law has been issued by the Authorities with respect to "detaining" a vessel. Although a vessel may be cleared in (given that no physical contact is required to clear her in) the crew / passengers arriving from countries in categories 1 and 2 will not be permitted to disembark unless the measures contained in the directive are complied with. Once the 14 days have passed then the crew / passengers can be disembarked.

Please also note that agents have also been requested to provide a questionnaire to crew and passengers for completion prior to entry and submission the Authorities.

All borders with the Turkish occupied territory of Cyprus have closed until further notice.

As of 16 March 2020 (18:00 hours) until 30 April 2020, entry into Cyprus will only be permitted to citizens – regardless of nationality – who fall into the following categories provided that they hold a medical certificate confirming that they are free of the virus (issued within 4 days prior to the date of travel). Such certificate may only be obtained from designated centres in each country. Furthermore, upon arrival to Cyprus such persons will be quarantined for a period of 14 days in government quarantine facilities. It should be noted however, that practical difficulties in many countries are inhibiting the issuing of the required medical certificates thereby making travelling to Cyprus almost impossible.

- Cypriot citizens.
- Legal residents in the Republic of Cyprus.
- European nationals or third-country nationals working in the Republic.
- Nationals of countries who are in a designated diplomatic service or mission under bilateral or international conventions.
- Individual cases of European nationals or third-country nationals for unavoidable professional obligations, provided that the relevant authorization has been obtained from the competent Ministry.
- European or third country citizens attending educational institutions in the Republic of Cyprus.

Courts are permitting entry to their premises for urgent matters only and most hearings have been postponed.

All surveyors and agents have been advised by the Cyprus Ports Authority that they are not permitted to go onboard vessels if they can carry out their work electronically (e.g. dealing with forms). Those who must attend onboard (e.g. for loading/discharge operations, taking samples etc) must do so only once the Master confirms in writing to the relevant port authority that the crew will be isolated and kept away from those going onboard.

No crew changes are permitted (embarkation / disembarkation) within the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus.

After 03:00 hours on 21 March 2020, Cyprus will come under a “flights shut down” mode for 14 days, although empty flights shall continue so that persons wishing to leave Cyprus may depart.

Denmark	DUPI Copenhagen	25-Mar	A detailed description about the consequences of closing the borders for all foreigner, not having a valid documented reason for entry into the Kingdom of Denmark until April 13 th , the Danish Police have published a QA, it can be found here .
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It is important to note, that the logistical supply chain is still open with no trading restrictions. As such, as far as that is concerned, it is business as normal.

25 March: The port of Esbjerg reports challenges with storage places, as loads of goods get delivered to port, however that some ships are delayed or postponed. The large number of goods, could be do the suppliers fear, that their goods cannot be delivered to port.

Dominican Republic	E&M International Consulting	17-Mar	The National Epidemiological Monitoring System (SINAVE) must be notified of any person presenting symptoms of the virus. Notification to the National Liaison Center for International Health Regulations (CNE-DIGEPI) could be performed by telephone, any day of the week, from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at 1-(809) 686-9140 or toll free at 1-(809) 200-4091, from 8:00 pm to 8:00 am, also via mobile phone (829)-542-7009.
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17 March:

1. Cruise ships are not being allowed to dock in Dominican ports for the period of 30 days as of today 16th March 2020.
2. All flights inbound and outbound are suspended between the Dominican Republic and Europe, China, South Korea and Iran for the period of 30 days as of 16 March 2020.
3. A quarantine requirement is being imposed for visitors who have been in any of the above listed countries during the previous two weeks.
4. Health screenings have been placed at airports and all arriving passengers must complete a travel history form.
5. Ship cargo operations are being carried out normally at all ports for now. We strongly recommend that all crew must stay on board.

Egypt	Kalimbassier is Maritime MESCO Eldib Advocates EMCO Group	8-Apr	• All vessels arriving for Suez Canal Transit and/or entering Egyptian Ports will be subject to the examination by the Medical Quarantine. Special attention will be given to those vessels coming from Chinese ports and/or any other hot spots. • All vessels calling Egyptian waters to provide the following documents, together with relevant entrance application, prior to the vessel's entry and berthing at the port: - o Crew list - o Passenger list (tourism) - o Last 10 port of call list - o Narcotics list - o Maritime declaration of health - o Vaccination list • If any crew members are suspected of being infected or any actual case is detected, the vessel will be held from transiting the Canal or
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entering the ports.

- Personnel dealing with those vessels (including but not limited to; pilots, agencies, mooring crew, etc.) will be recorded by the Medical quarantine, and will have a permit to board (confirming that they are free from inspection), it is also possible that they will be further examined/monitored upon disembarking.
- Egyptian ports are open but are implementing precautionary and preventative measures.
- So far there have been no reports of disruption to shipping through the Suez Canal. The east side of Port Said is closed, while the west side remains open with limited operations.
- The port of Alexandria is only accepting vessels to discharge cargoes and the port of Damietta is restricted to container ship activity only.
- Surveyors have not been told of any restrictions imposed on boarding vessels to carry out surveys.
- Most law courts are closed for two weeks to promote social distancing

18 March: All agents have been instructed to notify the health authorities if there is any intention to sign on or sign off of any crew in the ports of Alexandria, Dekheila or Abu Qir in relation to any crew from the following countries:

- China, Taiwan, Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, South Korea, Singapore, Iran, Italy, Kuwait, Bahrain, Germany, France, Switzerland, Spain, Thailand.

6 April: the Ministry Health has decided to implement the following preventative measures to all vessels calling at the port of Alexandria:

- Once the vessel berths at quay or inner-anchorage area, a team of medical officers will board the vessel to sterilize the whole vessel including every container, all holds, and different types of cargo.
- A team of specialized quarantine doctors will board the vessel to examine the crew and personnel on board. These examinations may include preliminary temperature measurements to identify any crew who may be sick. If a crew is found to be sick, more stringent measures may be implemented, including but not limited to immediate quarantine.

7 April: The Egyptian Authority for Maritime Safety (Marine Inspectorate) have issued instructions that will help facilitating and speeding up the completion of the sailing formalities, by allowing to apply for the sailing formalities 72 hours before the actual departure of vessels.

Also, in its effort to remain the preferred waterway shortcut, The Suez Canal Authority (SCA) have released four new circulars and amendments, offering rebates to container vessels, LNG and LPG carriers.

1. SCA have issued a Circular (4/2020) offering fixed rebates to LPG vessels between the US Gulf and West/East Coast India and Far East
2. SCA have issued a Circular (3/2020) offering fixed rebate to container vessels from North West Europe going to Port Kelang or its eastern ports
3. SCA have issued an amendment to their previous fixed LNG rebate, increasing same from 25% to 30%
4. SCA have also issued a renewal/amendment to their Circular (7/2017) offering fixed rebates for LNG vessels between US Gulf and AG/WC India/EC India/Far East.
5. SCA Periodical Concerning the granted rebates according to the following circulars: Circular 2/2016 (Containerships) – Circular 3/2016 (Crude oil tankers transiting integrated with SUMED) – Circular 7/2017 (LNG Carriers)

These circulars can be found at on the SCA website: <https://www.suezcanal.gov.eg/English/Navigation/NavigationCirculars/Pages/default.aspx>

France	Budd Group	1-Apr	For regularly updated port-by-port details, refer to the INVENTORY OF MEASURES RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS FOR FRENCH PORTS which has been put in place by Ship Agents SEA INVEST and is available on their website here .
	France P&I		

19 March: Surveyors across the country have confirmed to date that, while they are prepared to attend urgent and important matters onboard vessels with the necessary protective gear and measures in place, they will most probably have to reconsider more simple assignments (such as draft surveys, preloadings and so on) on a case-by-case basis as such might be considered as “non-essential” by the Authorities in case of control.

Except for performing security & safety tasks related to their vessel, Crew members are also subject to confinement measures and are no

longer permitted to disembark during calls.

As for crew changes, the European Union having now officially closed its borders, all crew changes are suspended for non-EU crew members as they are no longer allowed in or out of the country. As for EU crew members, situation will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Authorities and under the strict provision that the repatriation can be proven “necessary/essential”.

French ports are still operating, most of them normally, some on a downgraded scale. Stevedoring companies are still working with limited personnel, and Agents around the country are now reduced to a bare-minimum staff and limiting their attendance onboard vessels to a strict minimum to avoid contact.

26 March: Budd Group advises that “surveyors also advise that they have not met with any impediments in carrying out their habitual interventions in France’s Channel, Atlantic and Mediterranean ports (not forgetting Paris and receiver’s premises throughout France). Their work does not need to involve any close physical contact with others and any documents they may required can be sent by email, rather than being given to them at the time of the survey.”

27 March: the French Government has enacted an Order providing that any time bar for cargo claims before the French Court which was due to expire as of 12 March 2020 is frozen until the end of a time limit of two months as of the end of the Health Emergency as declared in France.

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| Gabon | Ivory P&I | 1-Apr | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any vessel wishing to call at the Ports of Gabon, must send to the Harbor Master’s office of the port of call, three (03) days before its arrival:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The list of the ten (10) last ports called• The list of crews changed and the visas of the last ten countries called by these crews.• Any vessel coming from or having called at least one of the ports of the countries in the grip of the epidemic, whose duration of departure from these ports until arrival at the Ports of Libreville is between fifteen (15) and twenty eight (28) days, the procedure for accessing the Ports of Libreville is as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give the information on the on-board health certificate;• Give the list of crews, copies of passports and up-to-date seaman’s books.• If the ship calls in a country plagued by an epidemic in the 14 days |
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preceding its arrival at the Ports of Libreville:

Fourteen (14) day quarantine of the vessel;

- Morning and evening temperature control by medical and / or paramedical staff;
- During this entire emergency period, gloves, FFP2 masks and the application of hydro-alcoholic solutions will be required for health workers and all other stakeholders of the port platform who may be in contact with so-called suspect vessels;
- The medical and / or paramedical staff followed by the Inspectors of the National Institute of Public Hygiene and Sanitation, will board the ships before berthing at the same time as the pilots, all with adequate PPE;
- Access to these ships is prohibited for any person before the advice and disembarkation of medical and / or paramedical staff and that of INHPA,
- No crew member is allowed to alight from the ship until further notice,
- No crew change is authorized until further notice in the Ports of Libreville
- As health is everyone's business, the administrations and operators working in the Ports of Libreville are each responsible, as far as it is concerned, for applying the provisions of this note. Any breach of these provisions exposes the offender (s) to the sanctions provided for this purpose.
- LIST OF COUNTRIES OR CASES OF CORONAVIRUS HAVE BEEN DETECTED

Apart of the Republic of CHINA, the following countries are considered at risk.

JAPAN, THAILAND, SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA, HONG KONG, AUSTRALIA, GERMANY, TAIWAN, USA, MACAO, VIETNAM, FRANCE, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, CANADA, PHILIPPINES, RUSSIA, ITALY, INDIA, ENGLAND, SRI LANKA, CAMBODIA, NEPAL, FINLAND, SPAIN, SWEDEN, MALAYSIA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM

Gibraltar	A. Mateos & Sons	26-Mar	Gibraltar Port Authority requires that the CORONAVIRUS DECLARATION FOR-000156 be completed by every vessel that will call Gibraltar at either the Western Anchorage, East anchorage, North Anchorage, any alongside berth, Quick turnarounds, medical disembarkations, OPLA and OPLB.
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The form is to be filled in, signed and stamped. No exemptions will be

given. Agents are to stress to the captain to fill in this form carefully and to answer all questions. Please note that the following special conditions will apply to vessels who have answered yes to any of the questions in the declaration:

- Remote pilotage requirements will be applied to the vessel.
- No crew members will be allowed to disembark the vessel during its call at Gibraltar.
- With respect to ongoing operations shore personnel embarking / attending the vessel will not be allowed then to disembark.
- Shore personnel are to minimise all interaction with the crew as much as practically possible.
- The GPA reserves the right to further scrutinise any incoming vessel if it deems necessary in the interest of public health.

Agents will receive via email from the Vessel Traffic Service Supervisor (VTSS) a special condition clause. This clause is to be forwarded to the master and to service boat operators.

Service boat operators are to limit contact with crew members from the vessels that have been issued the “special condition cause”

If any vessel declares that crew members are suffering from any sickness in relation to this protocol/declaration, the vessel will be refused clearance at first instance and will be referred to other agencies on a case by case basis

26 March: The Gibraltar Port Authority advises that crew changes will not be permitted until further notice

The Authority further advises all responsible persons to:

1. Immediately report any unplanned or accidental interaction with third party personnel or crew members to Port Health and comply with any instructions given.
2. Ensure that vessels berthed within their terminal which have been directed to follow quarantine instructions comply accordingly.
3. Immediately report any matter or operation that does not comply with the provisions of this Port Notice or the above-mentioned Legal Notices and Port Notices to the Authority and Port Health

Greece	Kalimbassier	27-Mar	For vessels coming from countries where the virus is in a wide outbreak, all port personnel who visit on board and/or liaise with the vessel's crew must wear simple protective face masks and maintain a minimum
	is Maritime		

distance of more than 1 meter from any other person. Same measures apply to all visitors, either seafarers, surveyors, technical or vessel representatives included.

For all vessels docked in Piraeus Port Authority/ Piraeus Container Terminal premises regardless of the country of origin, for crew disembarkation/return, a private car provided by the vessel agent will be used for the crew transportation. Pick up and drop off point is the ship's ladder and the crew will in no way mingle with the port employees. Same measure applies for the transportation of all visitors who wish to enter the port facility. It should be clarified that any private bus, mini bus or taxi arranged by the agent for this purpose, should be accompanied to/from the vessel by a private car provided by the agent.

The port personnel is recommended to minimize contact with the vessels' crew and communications with the vessels are carried out by email to the extent possible.

Compulsory use of face masks and protective gloves is followed by stevedores who go on board to carry out their tasks

There are private companies engaged in disinfection, however when a vessel is believed to have been possibly affected by the disease, the State Hygiene Authorities will initiate action and decide for the measures to be taken

18 March: still no official measure in force in respect of a compulsory quarantine for cargo vessels calling in Greece. As from 15th March and until at least 15th April, there is a temporary suspension of Greece-Italy and Greece-Albania sea connections applicable to all passenger vessels and private yachts but this measure does not apply to any sea-going cargo vessels. In addition, cruise ship calls and disembarkation of passengers to any Greek port are temporarily restricted as a precaution in the context of limiting the spread of the COVID-19 virus to the public.

To protect both its personnel and the wider public health, Motor Oil Hellas (MOH) refinery at Aghioi Theodoroi has established the following precautionary measures:

- All individuals (MOH personnel, pilots, agents, surveyors, suppliers, technicians, tugboat personnel, etc.), who embark vessels for operational reasons must wear all the necessary protective equipment described by the Greek Organization of Public Health's Recommendation bulletins, such as masks with filters for biological agents-ffp2 type, googles, single-use

uniforms, nitrile gloves, etc., whilst on board.

- Any involved party wishing to embark a vessel must be provided with all the necessary equipment in advance – <https://eody.gov.gr/2019-ncov-odigies-pov-aforovn-pliromata-ploion-se-periptosi-ypoptoy-kroysmatos-en-plo/>.
- During the presence of MOH personnel on board, any crew members within a distance of less than 2 meters must wear all the protective equipment.
- Crew disembarkation is not allowed during vessel's birth at the terminal and anchorage area. For operational or emergency reasons, crew members can disembark the vessel, prior to permission granted by Terminal Authorities, only by wearing all the necessary protective equipment.
- Embarkation/disembarkation of onsigners/offsigners must be performed only if it is absolutely necessary. If embarkation/disembarkation of onsigners/offsigners via terminal's area is necessary, it will be performed – prior to permission granted by Terminal Authorities – only by wearing all the necessary protective equipment.

Hellenic Petroleum (HEL.PE) has implemented new measures for vessels at its installations in Aspropyrgos, Eleusis and Pachi installations:

- All ships will be berthed at HEL.PE must send 3 days prior to arrival and on daily basis the Maritime Declaration of Health.
- All ships will be berthed at HEL.PE must send 3 days prior to arrival and on daily basis the IMO crew list with the date and place of embarkation of the entire crew members.
- Crew is prohibited to go ashore.
- Provisions/Equipment/Supplies not allowed during ship's stay alongside installations
- Any relocation of crew shall be limited to the minimum necessary during operations.
- For routine loading and unloading operations listed, there should be relevant information and approval by ISPS person in charge of HEL.PE.
- Visitors will not be allowed to enter installations.
- Crew changes are allowed only for EU and Schengen nationalities. Third countries crew changes under prohibition up to and including 18 April.
- In case of a suspected case, the Master should report and follow the instructions of the ESA/WHO as well as installations' instructions.

- Prohibition of garbage disposal during ship's stay alongside installations.
- Obtain hygiene measures from all crew members according to WHO instructions.
- Traffic/relocation of installation staff will be limited as well as to local cargo surveyors, ship's agents, Port Authorities and Customs and pilots
- Entrance to marine terminal control area is not allowed, nor is entry of visitors.
- As many pre and after loading-discharging documents and arrangements as feasible will be issued and conducted by e-mail, telephone etc. Documentation which cannot be signed and stamped via e-mail will be delivered in sealed envelopes.
- Crew changes are allowed only for EU and Schengen nationalities. Third countries crew changes are prohibited up to and including 18 April.
- All above until further notice and subject to additional measures and controls.

27 March: Goyios & Nassikas advise: "According to the relevant ministerial decisions, for as long as the operation of the Greek Courts remains suspended, the time limitation periods are suspended as well."

Haiti	E&M International Consulting	17-Mar	1. As of midnight, Monday March 16, 20 the government has implemented flight restrictions and closure of the border with the Dominican Republic. All flights to and from Haiti and destinations in the Dominican Republic, Canada, Latin America and Europe will be suspended for two weeks. Flights between Haiti and the United States will continue. 2. The Government of Haiti stated that all travelers from the U.S. must have a document showing that they have tested negative for coronavirus before boarding. The Government of Haiti did not specify what proof passengers should present and has not yet provided instructions to airlines. 3. The Government of Haiti will continue to conduct health screenings for arriving passengers. 4. The Minister of Interior announced that the border with the Dominican Republic will be closed to passenger traffic, but goods crossing the border will still be permitted if personnel transporting the goods are screened at the border.
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5. CPS Terminal at Port au Prince is implementing the IMO's guidance. The Port Authority has not issued yet any memorandum regarding the other terminals.

6. Ship cargo operations are being carried out normally at all ports for now. We strongly recommend that all crew must stay on board.

Hong Kong (China)	Hong Kong Shipowners Association	25-Mar	The Hong Kong Government will ban non-Hong Kong residents arriving from overseas countries or territories through the airport from entering Hong Kong for 14 days, starting from 25 March.
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Non-Hong Kong residents arriving in Hong Kong from the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan who have been to overseas countries or territories in the past 14 days will also be banned from entering.

India	P & I Services Pvt.Ltd	20-Apr	The Gov. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs issued circular dated 23rd March 2020, which directed the closure of all immigration checkpoints including all Airport, Seaport, Land port, Rail port and Riverport Immigration Checkpoints to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. This does not apply to Ships carrying cargo for trade or essential goods and supplies are exempted from the circular and therefore they will not face an immigration blockade. The crew and the vessels nonetheless would have to undergo the screening process.
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[Addendum No.1 of DGS Order No. 04 of 2020](#) provides a list of 'infected countries'.

1 April: The following Indian ports have all declared 'Force Majeure' to ensure that unforeseen delays in the delivery of cargoes and other port-related services do not affect their commercial contracts with port users:

All 44 ports under Gujarat Maritime Board, Kakinada Anchorage Port, Kolkata, Haldia, Paradip, Paradip International Cargo Terminal, Kavar Port, Dhamra, Karaikal, Gopalpur, Gangavaram, Krishnapatnam, Kandla, Kandla International Container Terminal, Adani Ports at Mundra, Tuna, Hazira and Dahej, Angre, the JSW and JSWIL ports at Goa, APM terminals at JN port (Nhava Sheva).

2 April: Bose & Mitra & Co provide the following:

- [DGS Order No. 08 of 2020](#) – Advisory on non-charging of any demurrage, ground rent beyond the allowed free period or any performance related penalty on non-containerized cargo during

the period of effect of Covid-19 pandemic dated 31 March 2020

- Ministry of Shipping, GOI Guidelines/Order to Major Ports on Exemptions/Remission on penalties etc and Issue Relating to Force Majeure under Section 111 of the Major Port Trusts Act 1963 dated 31 March 2020.
- [Addendum No. 3 to DGS Order No. 4 of 2020](#) — Instructions to Ports for dealing with the COVID-19 dated 1 April 2020.

13 April: GAC advise as follows:

- All ports/terminals in India, handling liquid bulk cargoes; are working with nominal resources – due to lockdown conditions prevailing in the country.
- Storage space at all Liquid Terminals/Tankages at most of the Ports are understood to be critical due to slow evacuation.
- Vessels arriving with chemical cargoes mainly ACETIC ACID and TOLUENE are facing increased delays due to non-availability of space & slow evacuation of previous cargoes already in storage tanks. AMMONIA, HSD and LPG too are understandably facing storage constraints.
- Latest guidance issued by the Home Ministry, Government of India (Office of the Home Secretary in New Delhi) – instructing all State Government authorities and other facilitating agencies to ensure – free movement of all essential goods to /from Ports, Intra & Inter-State movement of trucks etc. without any hindrances. There is reported ambiguity surrounding the definitions of ‘essential’ and ‘non-essential’ commodities is lending impediments to the whole logistics process.
- A severe shortage of workers and transport in clearing of cargo (Both Dry & Liquid) from Ports continue to slowdown operations at ports/Terminals, considerably – this is despite the Ports in India facing no lockdown restrictions.
- Berthing delay for Vessels (Especially on the E/C Indian Ports, mainly HALDIA, PARADIP, KPATNAM) remains high due to more vessels lining up for berthing and turnaround time getting extended.

Continuing drop in productivity levels and shortage of space at storage yards at most of the Ports also add to the delay in turnaround of vessels.

15 April: Ministry of Home Affairs provide consolidated guidelines that include transit arrangements for foreign nationals and advises no new restrictions on port or cargo operations. See <https://mha.gov.in/>

16 April: The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has extended the nationwide lockdown till 3 May 2020.

Bose & Mitra & Co provide: [DGS Order No. 10 of 2020](#) (13 April) on validity of Continuous Discharge Certificates.

Indonesia	Spica Services Indonesia	6-Apr	The following will be implemented at all Indonesian ports: • Incoming vessels from all other countries will first be inspected by Quarantine officer at anchorage. • Nobody can come on board, no loading activity can be conducted before arrival inspection by quarantine officer is completed. • Free Pratique will only be granted if crew are not suspected of coronavirus all crew are in good condition after inspection completed. • Arrival inspection will take about 2 3 hours by quarantine officer at outer anchorage. • If any crew members are suspected to have the coronavirus disease, all activity will be suspended and vessel will be quarantined. She will not be allowed to proceed alongside jetty or load at anchorage, and shall wait for quarantine officer's decision with indefinite waiting time. • Any person who has spent the last 14 days or more in mainland China is not allowed to enter, or transit, through Indonesia and Indonesian ports.
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1 April: The City of Denpasar is currently in a State of Emergency, and all cruise ships are prohibited from visiting and docking at the port of Benoa. They are also prohibited dropping off passengers heading for the city of Denpasar who do not have an identity document showing domicile in Denpasar as there is strict selection of passengers/goods going through Benoa Harbor to Denpasar City.

Such passengers are also prohibited from crossing through the Crossing Port Ketapang – Gilimanuk and through the Crossing Port Lembar – Padang Bai.

Port operations are limited and crossing frequency reduced.

2 April: Crew changes in Indonesia are permitted for Indonesian crews (WNI) only after implemented the Health Protocol of Covid-19 Handling.

Foreign crews may not go ashore during ship's activities in the port area. Foreign crew changes are not allowed in Indonesian Ports, but during the outbreak of Covid-19 can be done at the specified anchorage area.

If a medical/health emergency occurs for foreign crews when the ship in

the port area, they could be taken ashore once permission is granted by the Covid-19 Task Force in each area after implementing the Health Protocol of Covid-19 Handling.

During the Covid-19 outbreak, foreign vessels (cargo ships, passenger ships and cruise ships) that apply for permission to disembark crews, bunker, fresh water and provision supplies will be provided shelter for ship-to-ship (STS) and lay-up at the designated area, i.e. Nipah Island, Tanjung Balai Karimun and Galang Island by fulfilling the terms and requirements of arrival the foreign ship in accordance with laws and regulations.

Iraq	Gulf Agency Company (Kuwait) Ltd Mutual Marine Services Al Mushtaraka Ltd	27-Mar	Ministry of Communications General company of Ports for Iraq have informed all agents that Masters of vessels that have called at a Chinese port within the last 30 days before arriving in Iraq are requested to provide a statement 3 days before arriving in Iraqi territorial waters that crew onboard do not have any symptoms of corona virus (high temperature, sore throat, coughing or breathing difficulties). If any such symptoms are noted, the Master should inform port authority prior to arrival and await further instructions.
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17 March: The Iraqi government has imposed curfew in all cities of Iraq starting from 11 PM Tuesday 17th of March until 11 PM 23rd of March except for medical staff. As of now the impact on port operations is unknown

26 March: the curfew in Iraq has been extended until 11th April 2020. Currently all ports remain operational. Surveyors are able to attend for inspections with the requisite permission, so delays in getting a surveyor to a vessel will be experienced.

Israel	Wilhelmsen Ship Agency	07-Mar	Vessels that have visited in China's ports in last 15 days before arriving to Israel cannot enter Israel
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Each vessel must sent report to Ministry of Health of Israel before her arrival to Israeli port, stating that all crew and passengers are healthy and that the vessel didn't visit China in the last 15 days.

The report must be approved by the Ministry of Health before her arrival to Israel. Without the approval, vessel cannot enter Israel. Foreign travelers who visited in China in the last 15 days is not allowed to enter Israel. Foreign travelers who have the symptoms of the virus (fever, cough or shortness of breath) is not allowed to enter Israel, regardless how many days passed.

HAIFA PORT

Vessels that arrive at the port and do NOT have people coming from countries for which the Ministry of Health has issued an alert (as of 2-Mar-2020) China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Macau, South Korea, Japan, Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Austria – the ship can enter the port. If on the vessel there are people that in the past 14 days, or the vessel has been in a port in the past 14 days, in one of the countries listed above, the vessel shall enter the port with the following restrictions: – Avoiding contact with the crew as much as possible. – The crew will be refused to enter the country, e.g. a complete prohibition on disembarking. – All workers (port and not-port workers) who board the vessel must have personal protective equipment which includes: Mouth/nose mask according to Ministry of Health spec. Gloves according to Ministry of Health spec. It is hereby emphasized that the foregoing relates to vessels which have received approval from the Ministry of Health's declaration prior to entering the port.

Italy	Samer & Co. Shipping	15-Apr	PRESS RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, 11 March 2020 Italian Ports Association:
	Samer & Co. Shipping		Italian ports are fully operational and ensure safety of persons and goods. In full respect of the measures adopted by the Government with the primary objective of protecting public health as a result of the medical emergency, the Italian Ports Association (Assoporti) wishes to clarify that all Italian ports are fully operational with suitable measures to guarantee maximum safety of port operations and goods. Italian ports are fully operational with regular service to the national community and all their offices, including those devoted to controls, guaranteeing regularity of the sea activities.
	MAURO Consultants LTD Srl		
	BonelliErede		The measures adopted by the Government in no way restrict the movement of goods in the country. The precautionary obligation of the “Free Sanitary Practice” issued by the Local Office of Maritime Health remains in force, which authorizes ships to berth, and the Italian ports are ready to adopt any new measures that were to be issued by the Office of Civil Defense (so-called: Protezione Civile). Italy's prime minister published a decree on 9 March “laying down urgent measures to contain and manage the epidemiological emergency

brought on by COVID-19” and extending the emergency measures introduced by the previous day’s decree to all of Italy. The measures will be in force until 3 April, subject to any further measures being introduced. In brief, people must avoid travelling anywhere in the country. The head of Italy’s Civil Protection Service advise that the travel restrictions: (a) do not apply to the transport and transit of goods or to the entire supply chain to and from the affected areas; and (b) do not prevent individuals from travelling for work- or health-related reasons, or for other needs.

Local sources confirm there are no limitations for vessels entering the ports of Ravenna Trieste and Monfalcone

11 April: All Italian ports are open for container ships and commercial vessel for the traffic of goods, whilst an international suspension of cruise ship traffic and a national suspension (or drastic reduction) of passenger traffic for Sardinia and Sicily Islands are operative.

Terminals, stevedores and logistic activities are operating under strict rules and safety conditions to safeguard all operators, stevedores and crew members from potential exposure.

The Courts remain operative only for urgent procedures, such as arrest or payment injunctions, which can be filed electronically (system now in use in Italy). Mediation and negotiation proceedings are suspended until 11th May 2020. All time bars and prescription terms expiring between 16th April 2020 and 11th May 2020 (already suspended from 9th March 2020 and 15th April 2020 by pervious law) are suspended.

Japan

GAC

7-Apr

23 March: Japan’s Ministry of Justice is denying permission to land to the following foreigners, unless the circumstances are exceptional. Foreigners who have stayed in any of the following cities/provinces/regions within 14 days prior to the application for landing:

- People’s Republic of China: Hubei Province, Zhejiang Province
- Republic of Korea: Daegu-guangyeok-si, or Cheondo-gun, Gyeongsan-si, Andong-si, Yeongcheon-si, Chilgok-gun, Uiseong-gun, Seongju-gun, Gunwigu in Gyeongsangbuk-do
- Islamic Republic of Iran: Gilan Province , Qom Province, Tehran Province, Alborz Province, Isfahan Province, Qazvin Province, Golestan Province, Semnan Province, Manzadaran Province, Markazi Province, Lorestan Province

- Italy: Veneto Region, Emilia-Romagna Region, Piedmont Region, Marche Region, Lombardy Region, Aosta Valley Region, Trentino-South Tyrol Region, Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, Liguria Region
- San Marino: whole country
- Swiss Confederation: Canton of Ticino, Canton of Basel-Stadt
- Spain: Chartered Community of Navarre, Basque Autonomous Community, Community of Madrid, La Rioja
- Iceland: whole country
- Foreigners who have Chinese passports issued in Hubei Province or Zhejiang Province in the People's Republic of China.
- Foreigners who were on the cruise ship, Westerdam, departed from Hong Kong.

7 April: A State of Emergency of Tokyo, Osaka, Hyogo(Kobe), Kanagawa(Yokohama), Chiba, Fukuoka(Hakata) and Saitama prefecture is declared. This Emergency declaration does not mean lockdown of these areas/cities but will be taken as strong message from the government.

Operation of harbor, port and terminal in the areas is not restricted and for the time being correspondents and local surveyors' service is/will be available as normal.

Korea	Spark International Ship Aide Ltd	3-Apr	15 March, the Korean government announced that special quarantine inspection will be carried out for those from the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, as well as China (including Hong Kong and Macau), Japan, Italy and Iran and as of 16 March, all those from Europe are included.
	Wilhelmsen Ship Agency		22 March, the Korean government has implemented more tightened immigration procedures and announced that all foreigners and Koreans from Europe will undergo COVID-19 infection test on their arrivals and the long term stayers (more than 90 days) even though their test result is negative, will be subject to 2-week isolation for the 14-day quarantine period.

2 April: All foreigners visiting Korea will be required to go through a mandatory 14 day quarantine.

Upon arrival, COVID-19 test will be carried out on the individual and thereafter, he/she will be taken to a government quarantine facility. Although the cost of COVID-19 test and treatment are covered by the Korean government, the individual will have to pay the usage

charge of the quarantine facility.

For vessel and crew, a different standard is applied:

Vessels arriving in Korea post 14 days since departure from last port (regardless of country): Entry for vessel and crew is as same as prior to COVID-19 situation. Enhanced screening is not conducted on the vessel and 14 day quarantine is not required for the crew.

Vessels arriving in Korea within 14 days since departure from last port (regardless of country): Enhanced screening measure conducted with National Quarantine Station officers boarding the vessel to check the body temperatures of each crew along with handing out 'Health Questionnaire' and 'Travel Record Declaration' to be submitted by each crew member. Cargo operation is only allowed after the quarantine certificate is issued by the National Quarantine Station Officer. For crew to disembark or to enter Korea, he/she must be in possession of a working personal smart phone and must install the government specified 'Self-diagnosis Application' on the phone. 14 day quarantine is not required for the crew.

The latest stats by city and province can be found [here](#).

Kuwait	Inchcape Shipping Services	25-Mar	Kuwaiti Ports Authority announce that due to the recent increase in cases in Iran, the Kuwait port authorities have suspended all vessel movements from Iran for vessel calling Kuwait with immediate effect until further notice.
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GAC

Kuwaiti Ministry of Communications have informed all agents that as part of efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Kuwaiti ports are prohibited from receiving foreign ships arriving from/ departing to the following countries in addition to closing all Maritime ports and banning all arrivals from any Nationality during the past two weeks from the above countries until further notice:

the Republic of Korea, Italy, Thailand, Singapore and Japan as well as the Peoples Republic of China and Hong Kong

The Ministry of Commination's have further advised that in order to maintain efficient trade, ships carrying goods from the Republic of Korea, Italy, Thailand, Singapore, Japan, Peoples republic of China and Hong Kong will be allowed to berth with the emphasis of prohibiting direct contact with the crew and preventing them from disembarking from the ship. The period they have specified is two weeks of their

departure from the affected ports.

With effect from 6 March, The Ministry of Health in Kuwait has imposed a ban on travellers arriving from, or who have visited in the last two weeks, the countries listed below:

Mainland People's Republic of China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong SAR, Thailand

On 12 March it was advised that the Kuwait government have taken a series of exceptional measures in a bid to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, halting commercial flights and sending public sector employees on a public holiday for two weeks starting from today until 26 March 2020.

Maritime navigation and normal operations at all Oil Terminals (Mina Al Ahmadi & Mina Abdulla) and Commercial ports (Shuwaikh and Shuaiba) will continue as usual without any hindrance.

24 March: Ministry of Communications advise that agents are required to provide in addition the usually required documentation before arrival:

- a copy of the ships' logbook for the last 30 working days – in English
- a copy of port clearance for the last 10 ports where cargo operations were carried out

Malaysia	SPICA Services	31-Mar	• Effective February 17 all respective companies must provide face masks, gloves and sanitizer to all personnel • Effective February 18 all foreigners from affected countries are required to fill declaration form provided by Immigration Department • Effective February 28 Not to Land (NTL) for all crews from Daegu, Cheongdon, Zhejiang, Hubei, Wuhan and Jiangsu, Lombardy, Veneto region. Crews that arrives at KUL Airport will be given a Health Alert Card which MUST be kept for the next 14 days Health Alert Card (HAC) issued by the MOH for passengers to declare their current state of health • Effective March 2 documents (maritime declaration of health, voyage memo crew list) must be submitted to Port Health officer within 48 to 72 hrs before vessel arrival • Effective March 9 all cruise vessels are barred from entry to Malaysian ports with immediate effect until further notice. Special
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entrance have been allocated for foreigners that arrived from affected country, screening will be done based on passport flight ticket.

- Effective March 16 cruise vessels can enter Malaysian Ports if in compliance with the terms as below
 - Disembarkation of crew which is seriously ill
 - To receive supplies (food, water, gas) and repair or maintenance work for the particular vessel
 - Disembarkation only for Malaysian Crew or Malaysian Nationality and should undergo health screening by Port Health prior to disembarkation
 - Vessel that has been or still on international waters but hasn't visited any other ports nor done any crew change or visitors from previous port
 - Cruise vessel has permission to dock at international waters
- Effective March 17 all cruise vessel yachts are barred from entering Malaysian ports and availing of immigration facilities. Passenger ferries are restricted from bringing foreign visitors into Malaysia. No sign on sign off formalities are allowed during this period. Only barter trade cargo vessels that bring food supply will be allowed to enter. Cargo vessel crew can be given landing pass but not allowed to go out from port area.
- **Johor (Pasir Gudang, Pengerang, Tanjung Pelepas, Tanjung Langsat)** Screening will be conducted at berth Temporary stop for SIRE inspection on board vessel If it is urgent and compulsory, it must be done at anchorage (SIRE inspector embark/disembark at anchorage)
- **Kuantan** Screening process will conducted at berth by the Port Health
- **Labuan** Vessel with less than 14 days departure from affected country will be put on Status B (quarantine at Berth) or status C (quarantine at anchorage) Ship shore leave will be suspended for vessels with status B and C
- **Lumut** Screening will conducted at berth No shore leave will be given until further notice by Port Health
- **Melaka** Screening will be conducted at anchorage
- **Penang** Screening will be conducted at anchorage
- **Port Dickson** Screening will be conducted at anchorage
- **Port Klang** Screening will be conducted at berth If any crew with fever over 38°C. Port Health shall arrange to transport the crew for medical attention. For Northport, all personnel are required to go through body temperature screening before being allowed to enter

Northport premises

- **Sabah (Kota Kinabalu, Sipitang Sandakan, Lahad Datu Tawau)** Health screening by Port Health is required for Any vessel calling from a foreign country. Screening will be conducted at anchorage. Action Taken On Arrival will be issued by Immigration to master via local agent before arrival of vessel NTL for all crews if vessel had called affected country regardless of number of days
- **Sarawak (Bintulu Tanjung Manis)** Petronas LNG Terminal will implement virtual loading for all vessels from affected countries (South Korea, Japan, Italy, Iran) No personnel is allowed to board the vessel
- All visitors (foreign and domestic) coming into Sarawak and returning Sarawakians will issued a 14 Day Stay Home Notice (SHN). Exemptions shall only be given by the State Health Department to those who required to travel under special circumstances (official and business duties).

31 March: All vessels arriving at Malaysia are subject to quarantine clearance, irrespective of their last port of call. No crew change for foreign nationals is currently permitted at any of the country's ports.

Malaysia Movement Control Order (MCO) in brief:

- restricts movement and assembly nationwide;
- restricts travel for all Malaysians going overseas;
- restricts foreign visitors and tourists into Malaysia;
- closes all government and private premises except those involved in essential services.

Foreign nationals who are in Malaysia and Malaysians are advised to adhere to the MCO. Violators are liable to a maximum fine of MYR 1,000 or jail for up to six months or both.

With the Immigration Department Office being closed effective 19 March 2020, travelers whose visit passes expire during the MCO period are not able to secure a special pass or to extend their visit passes to remain in Malaysia with a valid pass.

Panama C.Fernie & 6-Apr
Co S.A

17 March: Air travel to and from Europe and Asia remain suspended. This has caused problems for ship personnel who land ashore for medical reasons and once fit to fly are unable to be repatriated until flight restrictions are lifted.

Only Panamanian citizens and/or residents are allowed to enter the

country.

The Maritime Courts have suspended all terms and operations limited to matters of urgency including ship arrests.

Only local personnel, suppliers, surveyors etc are allowed to board vessels at the anchorages and terminals.

31 March: The lockdown has been extended, limiting movement even further. Exceptions remain for basic public services, some services to vessels, terminals and Panama Canal operations which continue uninterrupted.

2 April: GAC advise that vessels with confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 are prohibited from transiting the Panama Canal and must comply with the required quarantine period. All transiting vessels must adhere to the following established by the ACP in response to COVID-19.

- All vessels are required to report the health conditions on board through the Panama Maritime Single Window System (VUMPA). In case of non-compliance and/or providing false information, the vessel will be subject to penalties and/or transit restrictions.
- All vessels are required to report through VUMPA if and when crew changes took place at ports with confirmed COVID-19 cases within 14 days prior to arrival at Panama Canal waters.
- All information reported through VUMPA will be verified prior to the vessel's arrival.
- Upon arrival at Panama Canal waters, a Panama Canal admeasurer will call the vessel via VHF radio to confirm whether there are any crewmembers or passengers on board showing virus-related symptoms.
- The Panama Canal admeasurer will then embark and verify the Maritime Health Declaration information previously submitted and confirmed by the master through VUMPA.
- The admeasurer, after embarking, will again verify with the vessel's master or officer in charge that there are no passengers or crewmembers on board showing COVID-19 virus related symptoms.
- Should there be any suspected cases of COVID-19 on board, and, due to the severity of the symptoms, it could be concluded that there is a contagious disease on board, the Maritime Health

Unit of MINSA will be called to embark the vessel.

- During this time, boarding and disembarking will be prohibited and the yellow quarantine flag will be flown, denoting that the ship is under quarantine.
- The next steps will be determined following MINSA's inspection.

MINSA also communicated to all shipping companies that they are required to report any crewmembers or passengers on board exhibiting illness-related symptoms, regardless of whether they are related to COVID-19 or not.

Saudi Arabia/
United Arab
Emirates
Mutual Marine
Services Al
Mushtaraka
Ltd.,

30-Mar Crew change is strictly prohibited for vessels arriving from outside the United Arab Emirates.

Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi Ports announced on 10 March that the following will take effect for three months:

- Crew changes are prohibited for vessels arriving from outside Abu Dhabi
- No shore leave is permitted, including berth and jetty unless in case of emergency and subject to approval from harbour master

Sharjah

Operational vessel movements are regular at all ports managed by Sharjah Ports Authority, but the following measures have been introduced for vessels at Sharjah ports to prevent/control the spread of COVID-19:

- Masters of all vessels to provide IMO health declaration duly signed and stamped 72 hours prior to the vessel's arrival, along with port required pre-arrival information including last 10 port of vessel call details and crew list.
- Upon arrival of vessel into port, all crew must undergo health screening at designated facility located in ports.
- If any crew indicate any symptoms of Covid 19, authorities will take necessary actions to quarantine and further medical interrogation.
- Until completion of health screening and clearance from Port (verbal approval) no crew is permitted to go onshore (except health screening) nor any personnel are permitted to go onboard

vessels.

Since 17 March, the issue of all types of visas (tourist, visit visa, mission visa & seaman visa) for embarking/disembarking crew members has been suspended/deleted from the online immigration system.

As an additional precautionary measure, effective from today (19 March), the UAE has suspended entry of residency visa holders who are currently out of the country, for a renewable period of two weeks.

The issuance of all types of labour permits, including for drivers and domestic workers, has also been temporarily suspended until further notice. This decision excludes intra-corporate transfer permits and employment permits for Expo 2020.

Crew embarkation/disembarkation and shore leave passes are strictly restricted.

Offshore attendance at Khor Fakkan port has been temporarily suspended until further notice due to COVID-19

Boarding on any vessel by vessel agents/owners/representatives and surveyors will be permitted only in exceptional circumstances and will be subject to prior approval from the Port Authority. Therefore note at present no surveyors are being allowed to board vessels in Jebel Ali and Abu Dhabi ports. Sharjah and Ras Al Khaimah have not yet restricted the surveyors attendance.

Fujairah

No crew will be permitted to disembark for medical assistance. Any medical assistance should seek boarding of medical team from the Fujairah Port Medical Centre.

Singapore SSA – 7-Apr
Singapore
Shipping
Association

Since 24 January 2020, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) has implemented temperature screening at all sea checkpoints, including ferry and cruise terminals, PSA terminals and Jurong Port, for inbound travelers.

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR NO. 16 OF 2020 (23 March)

National Environment Agency's (Port Health Office) requirements for all vessels arriving Port of Singapore to submit the Maritime Declaration of Health to the Port Health Office.

The master of the ship is recommended to implement the following additional precautionary measures:

- Educate crew/passengers of the symptoms of COVID-19, which are:
 - Fever (i.e. temperature above 37.5 degree Celsius);
 - Runny nose;
 - Cough; and
 - Shortness of breath
- Carry out daily temperature checks for all crew/passengers at least twice daily;
- Isolate unwell crew/passengers when his/her temperature is above 37.5 degree Celsius. The unwell crew/passengers should also wear a mask; and
- Disinfect common areas and rooms in the vessel before arrival in Singapore. The disinfection may be conducted by the ship's crew en-route to Singapore. You can refer to the Interim Guidelines for Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection of Areas Exposed to Confirmed Case(s) of COVID-19 in Non-Healthcare Premises issued by NEA for guidance on the disinfection protocols, if needed

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR NO. 17 OF 2020 (23 March).

From 23 March 2020, 2359 hours, all short-term visitors, from anywhere in the world, will not be allowed to enter or transit through Singapore. MPA will apply these additional precautionary measures to all vessels calling at the Port of Singapore.

The Port of Singapore remains open for cargo operations and marine services, including shipyard repairs.

With the application of the additional precautionary measures, crew and passengers on short-term visits will not be allowed to disembark in Singapore for the time being. Crew change in Singapore is also disallowed for the time being.

The National Environment Agency's (NEA) Port Health requires all vessels arriving at Singapore to submit the Maritime Declaration of Health Form

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR NO. 18 OF 2020 (23 March)

MPA has taken the following enhanced measures for vessels arriving Singapore:

- All crew members are advised to take their temperature twice daily;
- All crew members are advised to maintain good hygiene in accommodation areas by cleaning frequently touched surfaces (e.g. desks, door handles, switches, telephones, etc).
- Shipmasters should isolate unwell crew and passengers.
- Shipmasters are required to report unwell crew/passengers to MPA and NEA's Port Health Office (PHO), and make the necessary arrangements to seek medical attention.
- Shipmasters should follow the National Environment Agency's (NEA) guidance for disinfecting common areas and rooms.

All suspected cases of COVID-19 crew/passengers will be assessed and/or tested for COVID-19. If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on board any vessel, PHO will quarantine the vessel at a designated anchorage or wharf, and in consultation with MOH provide the quarantine requirements for the crew and passengers. During the quarantine period, operations will not be allowed until the quarantine is lifted. If there is a need for any critical operation, PHO's approval will be required and all persons working onboard will be required to don the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which may include surgical gowns, masks and gloves.

If there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 on board vessels, there is no restriction on operations.

27 March: Singapore MPA have issued a Circular – CREW CHANGE FOR CARGO SHIPS UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE PORT OF SINGAPORE, TO MINIMISE RISK OF COMMUNITY SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) IN SINGAPORE, which can be found [here](#)

PORT MARINE CIRCULAR NO. 20 OF 2020 (3 April)

Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH) issued “Additional Measures to Minimise Further Spread of COVID-19”. All business, social, or other activities that cannot be conducted through telecommuting from home will be suspended from 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020 (inclusive); Essential Services and their related supply chains, as well as entities that form a part of the global supply chain, are exempted from the suspension.

The Port of Singapore will remain open for cargo operations and will continue to provide essential marine services including bunkering, ship

stores and ship supplies.

South Africa	Budd Group	17-Apr	Below the latest marine notices from the South African Maritime Safety Authority regarding the containment of the COVID-19 outbreak. These can be read at: http://www.samsa.org.za/
	ENSafrica		

[MN 13 of 2020 – CORONAVIRUS – VESSELS AND SEAFARERS](#)
[MN 14 of 2020 – CORONAVIRUS Information and Emergency Contact Details.pdf](#)

[MN 15 of 2020 -COVID-19 – Update No1 – Government Announcement With Regard To Port Calls From Vessels.pdf](#)

[MN 16 of 2020 – Implementation of March 2020 National Ports Act \(COVID-19 Restrictions on the movement of persons and crew\) Regulations 2020.pdf](#)

[MN 18 of 2020 – South Africa – 21-Day Lockdown.pdf](#)

[MN 21 of 2020 – COVID-19 Lockdown – South African Ports Open for Cargo Operations.pdf](#)

South Africans are encouraged to exercise appropriate hygiene measures, including frequent hand washing, covering of the mouth and nose, avoiding contact with those showing flu-like symptoms, and utilising an “elbow greeting” rather than handshaking.

18 March 2020: Foreign nationals from high-risk countries will be banned from entering the country. Travel visas will not be issued and all previously issued visas will be revoked. High-risk countries include China, Germany, Iran, Italy, South Korea, Spain, UK, USA

27 March: South Africa commences a 21-day national lockdown at midnight tonight, Thursday 26 March, until midnight on Thursday 16 April 2020. Essential services (as defined) are exempt from the lockdown. South African ports will remain operational to facilitate the import and export of essential goods such as food products, medical supplies and fuel. However, the ports will be operating with reduced staff so delays can be expected.

The following will apply to Bulk, Breakbulk and Automotive Terminals operated by the State-owned Transnet Port Terminals (“TPT”):

- Operations at all Bulk Terminals (mineral mining commodities) will be scheduled as per demand from mining customers, subject to approval by the Department of Public Enterprises;
- Mining customers will also have to obtain approval from the Department of Mineral Resources;

- Should approval be obtained, TPT will request employees in the relevant Bulk Terminals to return to work;
- Agri-Bulk products (grains, soya bean meal, fertiliser and woodchips) deemed an essential service will operate on a single berth operation at East London, Richards Bay and Durban Agri Terminals;
- Breakbulk Terminals (“MPTs”) at Cape Town, Richards Bay and Durban Point will operate on a single berth operation to handle essential breakbulk goods and containers;
- MPTs at East London, Saldanha Bay, Port Elizabeth and Durban will be closed;
- All Automotive/Ro-Ro Terminals will be closed.

Essential goods and services will be prioritised as follows:

- Essential goods will be prioritised over non-essential goods;
- Each vessel will be required to provide a mandatory import evacuation plan prior to berthing;
- Containers must be cleared and assigned prior to berthing and it will remain the responsibility of the shipping lines to evacuate containers to a suitable facility;
- TPT reserves the right not to berth a vessel should these requirements not be met;
- TPT reserves the right to prioritise the berthing of vessels on a first planned, first served basis at all Terminals;
- TPT reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to change the order of berthing in order to prioritise the handling of essential goods;
- Refrigerated containers will be prioritised over non-essential exports.

In respect of the port of Durban:

- Port Control will be manned 24/7;
- Tugs and berthing staff will be reduced to 4 tugs and 4 gangs;
- All non-essential vessels that are not working cargo will be required to vacate the port by 22:00 local time tonight, 26 March 2020;
- Durban Container Terminal Pier 1 will be reduced to a single berth operation;
- Durban Container Terminal Pier 2 will be reduced to a two berth operation;
- Island View berths will be limited to IV2 or IV4, IV3 and IV6 or IV7;
- Point will have one berth available for essential cargo;
- Maydon Wharf berths will be limited to three being MW1/2,

MW3/4 and MW5 with vessels to dock based on the essential goods list.

- All vessels are required to obtain Port Health clearance 72 hours prior to arrival, even if the previous port was another South African port;
- All vessels are required to obtain ISPS clearance prior to entering the port of Durban;
- No crew changes will be permitted, either in the port or off port limits (“OPL”);
- All bridges, gangways, hand rails and doors must be regularly sanitised;
- The port will only allow disembarkation of returning South African citizens or permanent residents;
- Masters are to enforce strict gangway watches in port;
- No persons will be permitted to embark or disembark a vessel in port without approval from Port Health and Immigration Services;
- No shore leave will be permitted, save in exceptional circumstances, and approved by the South African Police Services and Immigration Services once the Harbour Master has been engaged;
- OPL operations for the supply of stores and equipment will only be permitted subject to the presentation to the Harbour Master, and his approval in writing, for each and every operation, of a Standard Operating Procedure, a comprehensive risk assessment of the operation and a detailed mitigation plan;
- No waste/slops, particularly galley waste and dunnage, may be removed from a vessel;
- No diving activities will be permitted save in an emergency and approved by the Harbour Master;
- Intensive measures are encouraged to be taken for hygiene control including but not limited to: washing of hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, use of an alcohol-based hand sanitiser containing at least 60% alcohol, sanitising of all work surfaces and self-isolation of any crew member when sick;
- Masters are encouraged to conduct relevant risk assessment/s and ensure that all crew members and persons boarding vessels wear the appropriate PPE;
- Masters are to discourage non-essential third parties from boarding their vessels;
- Bunkering to be approved in writing by the Harbour Master and such operations will be permitted subject to limited interaction between the bunker barge and the receiving vessels. The

Masters of both the barge and the receiving vessel are to conduct a risk assessment to ensure adequate mitigation measures are put in place, particularly the donning of the correct PPE.

2 April: the South African Maritime Safety Authority, on behalf of the Department of Transport, informs all stakeholders that:

- ALL SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS REMAIN OPEN FOR PORT OPERATIONS
- CARGO OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN ALL PORTS
- STEVEDORE OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN ALL PORTS

ALL TYPES OF CARGO WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE LOADED AND OFF LOADED

16 April: South Africa has extended the lockdown for a further two weeks, to the end of April 2020.

Spain	MedPandi Indeco	9-Apr	The Spanish Government has implemented the “State of Alarm” in Spain for fifteen (15) days – extendable depending on the evolution of the situation. Thus, the Spanish Government has established measures that can limit the circulation or presence of persons or vehicles at certain times and in certain places, amongst others. Port and logistic activities related to cargo vessels will continue. However, personal interaction with personnel from local companies (agents, stevedores, suppliers, etc.) can have certain restrictions; all in views to prevent the spread of the COVID – 19 and guarantee the health of local personnel and crew on board.
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All procedural deadlines, hearings and trials, as well as time bars, are suspended during the period of emergency declared back on 14 March 2020 until at least mid-April 2020.。

19 March: Port Authorities have informed that they have maintained with normality the operations that were previewed at their ports. Sanitary measures have been taken in order to minimize any risk of contagious by COVID -19. Crew changes are not allowed during the State Alarm period, at any of the Spanish Ports. If a change of crewmember has to be carried out due to medical reasons, immediate notification shall be made to agents so that the corresponding protocol be put in place by the Authorities.

23 March: Spain to prolong the State of Alarm two more weeks up and until 11 April 2020. There are restrictions to citizens’ movement who have to remain confined in their homes. Border controls have been

resumed with France and Portugal. International flights restricted and only Spanish residents and nationals are allowed in the country. Cruise and passenger ships are restricted.

Ports are operating, loading and discharge of goods is on-going. Stevedores and personnel attending on board vessels have to take basic precaution such as the use of masks and keep a safety distance of 1.5 mts from each person in contact

9 April: State Bulletin Order TMA/330/2020 of 8 April extends the restriction of entry in Spanish ports of passenger ships and ro-ro ships providing regular services between Italy and Spain if they have embarked passengers in Italian ports, with the exception of drivers of traction heads of ro-ro cargo. Cruise vessels coming from any port are also prohibited.

It is expected that this new extension of the period of state of emergency will be agreed until 26 April.

Thailand	SPICA	1-Apr	18 March: Vessels that called Chinese ports before Thailand must report any symptoms of crew passengers onboard, with intensive screening for those who were in China 14 days prior Symptoms must be reported 24 hours prior arrival.
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Any ships from China, HK, Macao, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Germany, France, Italy and Iran will be monitored by health control Master of all ships must report temperature of crew on board every day, 7 days before arrival in Thai waters.

Authorities will attend on board to perform quarantine screening.

All crew must have thermal scans and fever condition checked If any crew have fever or a suspected symptom, s/he will be placed under 14 days of quarantine and further check by hospital. If individual is found to be infected with Covid 19 on board, that vessel is prohibited to enter the port until health authorities ensure that vessel is free from infection

1 April: The requirement to show evidence of health certificate and health insurance for all crew which the Thai authorities announced on 19 March has now been cancelled and has now been superseded by another announcement on 26 March where both the need to show evidence of a health certificate and health insurance are no longer required.

21 April: Crew changes are prohibited with certain exceptions depending on region.

United Kingdom	GAC	12-Mar	Milford Haven – Dragon LNG have the following procedures in place with immediate effect: • Ships agents to only board vessels if they need to have a face to face conversation with Master or for Cash to Master deliveries. • The following personnel will not be allowed to transit the terminal or board the vessel • Company staff from shipping company • Surveyors, Class, P&I etc. • Service engineers attending non-critical ships equipment • Sire Inspectors and Auditors • No crew changes will be allowed at Dragon LNG. Personnel will be allowed to sign off the vessel but no personnel will be allowed to join. • Service engineers who need to attend for repair of critical ship systems will require a risk assessment to be carried out in conjunction with marine manager at Dragon LNG and the shipping company. • Shore leave will be allowed. • Ship welfare visits will not be allowed unless in an emergency and the Marine Manager will decide whether the Port Welfare Chaplin may visit onboard or will arrange a convenient location for a confidential meeting. Government agencies visiting the vessel will only be allowed in an emergency or after completing a Coronavirus questionnaire.
USA – Federal (All States)	Hudson Tactix	20-Mar	The USCG now considers any ill person onboard a vessel, regardless of where they have been or who they have interacted with, who show symptoms of COVID-19 or other flu like illness to be a hazardous condition as per 33 CFR 160.216. Accordingly, the owner, agent, master, operator, or person in charge must immediately notify the nearest Coast Guard Sector Office (Captain of the Port – COTP) or Group Office. U.S. Flag commercial vessels are advised to report ill crewmembers in accordance with the requirements of each foreign port called upon. As the Master is likely to be the first person in charge aware of an ill crewmember, we strongly recommend the Master to immediately notify the nearest USCG COTP as per above, in addition to the U.S. CDC immediate reporting requirements.

The CDC have issued interim guidance for ships:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/recommendations-for-ships.html>

USCG MSIB 02-20 (Change 3) dated March 16, 2020, which details the above USCG reporting requirement. It also covers the latest Presidential Proclamation restrictions on persons arriving to the USA, as well as other USCG guidance and information for vessel owners and operators.

Vietnam	SPICA Services	18-Mar	Immigration office has announced below information which is applied from 15 March until further notice:
	Budd Group		1. China, Hong Kong, Macau, Korean, Italian, Iran are not allowed to entry Vietnam. 2. Visa exemption of Japan, Korea, United Kingdom, French, Germany, Italy, Spain, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland are not accepted. 3. Stop issuing visa for United Kingdom & Schengen countries. 4. Visa on arrival at airport of all nationalities are not accepted. Exit visa at port are not accepted either. 5. All nationalities will apply visa at Vietnam embassy of their countries. Condition for visa application will depends on requirement of Vietnam embassy at each country. 6. The rest of nationalities who can enter Vietnam by exemption visa or valid visa, if immigration officer find out they have visited areas like UK, Schengen countries, China, Korea, they have two options: • OPTION 1 Continue Vietnam entry, then they are isolated for 14 days, after 14 days if they are negative of covid 19 they are allowed into entry Vietnam. • OPTION 2 Fly out of Vietnam. 7. Upon arrival airport, if quarantine officer finds out someone has a symptom of covid 19 they will isolate everyone on this flight, all guests on flight will have two options: • OPTION 1 Continue Vietnam entry, then they are isolated for 14 days, after 14 days if they are negative of covid 19 they are allowed into entry Vietnam • OPTION 2 Fly out of Vietnam 8. For shipping line related to crew change attending vessel, send below

info for checking with immigration quarantine office

- List of 10 last port call
- nationality of crew technician superintendent, etc

9. If the vessel called China, Hong Kong, Macau, Korea, EU Ports, crew change cannot be arranged crews on board are not allowed to go on shore for all purposes.

10. For vessels that have not called the listed ports, crew change can be arranged with some conditions Quarantine officer at port will:

- On signer: check temperature or health condition before allowing enter port.
- Off signer: they may check temperature daily and or the date of repatriation.

Source of Information: North of English P&I Club