Wednesday 1 April 2020

To customers and port stakeholders

COVID-19 Update # 7

Port Authority of New South Wales (Port Authority) is taking any potential exposure of its employees to COVID-19 seriously and continues to apply measures to mitigate exposure.

These measures are in line with guidelines from Federal and State authorities and, since our last update issued on 13 March, we have updated our measures as follows (changes in bold italics):

- Masters of all ships due to arrive at our ports are required to answer the following questions:
  - What were the last 5 ports of call?
  - Are there any ill passengers or crew on board?
  - Are any crew members or passengers showing symptoms of Covid-19 on board?
  - Has the vessel been in mainland China, Iran, Republic of Korea or Italy in the last 14 days? What date did the vessel depart these countries?
  - Has any person on the vessel been in contact with a proven case of novel coronavirus infection in the last 14 days.
  - Are there any crew or passengers who have left, or transited through, mainland China or Iran, Republic of Korea or Italy less than 14 days ago?

- For the purpose of this instruction, 14 days will mean 14 calendar days (e.g. if the vessel has sailed out of a Chinese port at 1000 hours local time on 1 March, she will only be allowed to enter into the port at 0001 hours local time on 16 March).

- Where Covid-19 is suspected or confirmed Port Authority will risk assess the situation and obtain further advice from the respective government agencies prior to boarding the vessel;

- If any person joins the vessel after her departure from the previous port, and if that person has left or transited through mainland China, Iran, Republic of Korea or Italy less than 14 days ago, the 14 calendar day count will recommence from the date of the last person joining the vessel.

- Port Authority will delay pilotage services to ships that have transited from mainland China, Iran, Republic of Korea or Italy which have been at sea for less than the 14 calendar day quarantine period, or 14 calendar days from the date of the last person joining the vessel.
In addition to the measures outlined above, on 28 March, the NSW Government issued a Maritime Health Protection Order which outlines restrictions to persons arriving in NSW on a vessel and persons boarding and disembarking from vessels.

We are working with NSW Police to consider any requests for exemptions from the order.

Please note: these requirements are in addition to all usual permits and approvals


Further information:

Australian Government: information for the maritime industry (30 March):

Australian Government: information for the cruise industry (31 March):

Australian Department of Health

NSW Health

Australian Border Force

We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you updated if there are further directions. If you have any further questions in relation to Port Authority's guidelines, please contact:

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Yours sincerely,

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