



KEEPING YOU SAFE AT WORK: MARINE SECTOR HEALTH AND COVID-19

Canada's ports play a key role in the economy and international trade. The marine transportation sectors on the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic coasts are prepared for the heightened risk posed by COVID-19.

Here's how the marine community keeps you safe at work, while moving goods safely and efficiently through our ports:



SHIPPING LINES:

Even before entering Canadian waters, companies are taking precautions to keep crews and port workers safe. For example, crews are being screened prior to boarding, crew changes may no longer be occurring in high risk countries, and crews are doing extra onboard cleaning according to health guidelines from the International Marine Organization and the World Health Organization.



TRANSPORT CANADA:

All ships from foreign countries must report to Transport Canada 96-hours before entering Canadian waters. Once Transport Canada receives the report, they confirm the health status of the crew with the master. Reports are shared with the Public Health Agency of Canada for immediate action.

If needed, directions are given to the ship and to stakeholders like port operators and pilots. Transport Canada is also working with other government partners like the Canada Border Services Agency, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.



MASTERS AND CREW:

Any time after the 96 hour pre-arrival information report, the ship must immediately report any changes to Transport Canada.



PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA:

If symptoms are reported, a Public Health Agency of Canada Quarantine Officer will speak to the master and crew, to assess symptoms and may require public health measures. For example, the crew may be asked to isolate themselves, wear a mask, or seek medical care.

The Public Health Agency of Canada will report back to Transport Canada.



PORT AUTHORITIES AND TERMINAL OPERATORS:

Operators and front line workers are equipped and trained in occupational health and safety procedures and follow guidelines from their workplace health and safety experts.

REMEMBER - Wash your hands. Avoid touching your face. Stay informed and confirm facts before sharing with others.

www.canada.ca/coronavirus

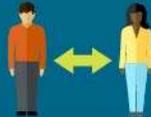


KEEPING YOU SAFE AT WORK: CANADA'S PORTS ARE OPEN TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The risk of the spread of COVID-19 is low in Canada, but Canada's ports are ready. The Government of Canada, port authorities, marine pilots, terminal operators and labour unions are working together to prevent the spread of the virus.

COVID-19 is usually spread through personal contact with droplets from sneezing and coughing. The risk of coronavirus infection from handling goods is very small. Visit canada.ca/coronavirus for more information.

Here's how Canadian marine workers are keeping you safe:

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|  <p>HEALTHY WORKERS</p> <p>Sick workers do not come to work or are sent home immediately.</p> |  <p>CLEAN PORTS</p> <p>Facilities are washing high-touch surfaces in port areas more than ever before.</p> |  <p>KEEPING A DISTANCE</p> <p>Workers will only board ships for necessary operations and will stay farther away from passengers and crew.</p> |  <p>CLEAN HANDS</p> <p>Workers have increased hand washing and sneeze/cough hygiene.</p> |
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What happens if a Canadian marine worker is sick?

Canada has one of the best health care systems in the world and is prioritizing COVID-19 testing and containment. Most port workers in Canada have sick leave benefits so they can stay home if they are sick. If a worker tests positive for COVID-19, anyone who they came in contact with will be notified as part of government requirements and encouraged to self-isolate for 14 days.

What happens if a crew member becomes sick while the ship is docked?

If a crew member becomes sick while the ship is docked, they should contact the local health authority by dialing _____, and notify your ship's agent. In the case of an emergency, call 911.

Everyone can help reduce the spread of COVID-19:

The Public Health Agency of Canada reminds everyone to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds, avoid close contact with people who are sick, and cough into your sleeve and not on your hands.



SHIP SAFETY BULLETIN

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We issue Ship Safety Bulletins for the marine community. Visit our Website at www.tc.gc.ca/ssb-bsn to view existing bulletins and to sign up to receive e-mail notices of new ones.



Subject: SHORE LEAVE ACCESS

Purpose

To provide guidance regarding access to shore leave for seafarers onboard Canadian and foreign vessels in Canada.

Scope

Transport Canada Marine Safety and Security (TCMSS) has received several indications that seafarers may be experiencing problems accessing shore leave in Canadian ports, terminals and marine facilities, due to the COVID-19 virus.

Background

TCMSS advocates for the health and safety of seafarers, passengers, and all port workers in the marine transportation sector. As such, there is a need to ensure that everyone working in the marine transportation sector is protected from any potential risks of COVID-19.

Access to shore leave for seafarers that live and work onboard vessels for weeks and months at a time is an important element of their health and emotional security, as well as quality of life. This also applies to crew changes when seafarers have completed their sea service and need to re-join their families at home. Diminishment in these areas may hamper the efficient vessel operations and the wellbeing of the maritime transportation system, which is essential to the Canadian economy.

Keywords:

1. Coronavirus
2. Shore leave

Questions concerning this Bulletin should be addressed to:

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Marine Safety and Security
Tower C, Place de Ville
330 Sparks Street, 11th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0N8

Contact us at: marinesafety-securitemaritime@tc.gc.ca or 1-855-859-3123 (Toll Free).



Next Steps

In order to not impede on the right of seafarers to have access to shore leave, TCMSS is requesting that all ports, terminals and marine facilities in Canada continue to grant shore leave to seafarers.

If a vessel reports a seafarer showing signs of the COVID-19 virus, shore leave will be denied until such time that the vessel is cleared by the appropriate health agency authorities. In such a case, all precautions will be taken to ensure that the health and safety of all seafarers onboard the vessel and all other marine personnel, to ensure that the safety of everyone working in the marine transportation system is maintained.

Please refer to the attached guidance.