

COVID-19 Maritime Industry Update 61

15 January 2021

This guideline is for the maritime industry and port supply chain



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Last updated: 15 January 2021

This document is uncontrolled if printed. Please refer to the Maritime New Zealand website for the latest version.

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1. Greetings from Maritime NZ

Happy New Year to everyone. We trust you've all had a pleasant start to 2021 wherever you are. We hope everyone managed to find some time to take a break after a hectic 2020 and you have returned ready and refreshed to face the year.

The COVID pandemic has changed our lives and while the country has adjusted well, the need to remain extra-vigilant remains as we guard against complacency and continue to strengthen and improve our COVID protections even further.

We look forward to working with you all throughout the year as we negotiate the inevitable challenges that will come our way, while continuing to keep the ports safe and the supply chain moving.

The Maritime Industry Update is issued weekly, usually in the second half of the week. However, publication days might change when there is a need to provide a quick update.

If you have any questions about updates, or suggestions for what you would like included, please contact Maritime NZ by emailing MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz.

2. Guidelines for NZ workers aboard international ships

In the week leading up to Christmas, we sent an email to everyone containing guidance on PPE usage and other practices designed to safeguard the health of NZ workers and international seafarers.

If you missed it, please link to the document on [Maritime New Zealand's COVID-19 page](#). It is the first of the downloadable documents as you scroll down the page.

Please take a read as now is a good time to reacquaint ourselves with the safety precautions we all need to take as workers return from their break and re-establish their daily routines.

3. COVID-19 Public Health Response (Maritime Border) Order (No 2) Amendment Order 2020

Just before Christmas the Maritime Border Amendment Order came into force. Again we did send this out just before the break, but in case you missed it, we've included details below.

Key components of this amendment cover:

- the Director General of Health's permissions for granting permits for vessels to arrive in New Zealand
- the requirement to remain in isolation or quarantine on board a vessel
- the requirement for crew to wear PPE if they're likely to come within two metres of shore based crew
- when a person may be transferred from isolation on a vessel to a land based isolation facility
- the 50 metre vessel separation rule
- the obligation of persons undertaking necessary tasks on a vessel under isolation in relation to PPE and distancing, in accordance with guidance issued by the HSWA regulator.

The order can be accessed via the link below.

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0329/latest/LMS437883.html>

4. COVID-19 testing reminder

In November we circulated information related to the updated testing order which outlined testing frequency at ports and the workers covered by these changes.

Anyone who spends more than 15 minutes in an enclosed space on an affected ship, and Pilots carrying out work on or around an affected ship, **will need to be tested every 7 days**.

An affected ship is one where people on board are required to be in isolation or quarantine under a COVID-19 Order.

Workers who need to be tested every 14 days includes:

- Stevedores who carry out work on or around an affected ship
- Persons who board, or have boarded, an affected ship
- Workers who transport persons to or from an affected ship
- All other port workers who interact with persons required to be in isolation or quarantine under a COVID-19 order.

It is important that port workers and those carrying out tasks within the port environment follow the testing regime that is currently in force.

Please contact Maritime NZ at MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz if you have any questions.

5. New COVID-19 variants

As you know some of the new COVID-19 variants have been discovered in New Zealand's quarantine system.

It is important to note that existing testing, hygiene and PPE protocols should be strictly complied with and are currently deemed sufficient to protect people from the new variants.

Please contact Maritime NZ at MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz if you have any questions.

6. Crew change update

Crew changes continued to take place over the holiday period, with 178 replacement and outgoing crew processed in December alone.

Industry consultation on the updated crew change process will continue this month and will be released to the industry once finalised. It is encouraging to see the process that we have been following continue to work well, however we are keen to get your input if there are improvements you would like to see.

Again, contact Maritime NZ at MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz if you have anything you would like to submit.

7. Answering your questions

There are a huge number of stakeholders in the maritime industry and ports' supply chain, and all of you are affected in different ways by COVID-19 and New Zealand's response to it.

If you have questions you would like answered, please email MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz by 5pm, Friday each week.

8. Key sources of information

The following links provide you with key sources of information.

- For all your questions, and to provide information and make suggestions – email Maritime NZ
MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz
- Port and maritime guidelines and other information
www.maritimenz.govt.nz – click on the COVID-19 banner on the home page
- Official health advice, including PPE guidance – Ministry of Health
www.health.govt.nz/
- Up-to-date information across the transport sector (land, sea and air) – Ministry of Transport
www.transport.govt.nz/about/covid-19/
- All New Zealand COVID-19 legislation
www.pco.govt.nz/covid-19-legislation/
- New Zealand’s campaign to stamp out COVID-19
www.covid19.govt.nz
- Information for businesses operating under alert levels
www.business.govt.nz/covid-19/operating-at-alert-levels/
- Wage Subsidy Scheme information
www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/resurgence-wage-subsidy/index.html
- Managed Isolation and Quarantine
www.miq.govt.nz/

Stamp it out



Practise good hygiene →

Wash your hands with soap. Cough or sneeze into your elbow. Clean surfaces.



Keep track of where you've been →

If COVID-19 reappears, help our health services reach people quickly to stop any further spread.



Stay home if you're sick →

If you have cold or flu symptoms, you should stay home and call your doctor or Healthline.