



CIRCULAR TO MEMBERS

26 November 2020

Dear Members,

INDUSTRY ADVISORY – PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR SHIPYARDS (REVISED)

Background and Overview

1. The Government agencies have observed rising incidences of infections amongst vessel crew regionally. If not detected and arrested swiftly, there is the risk of infected crew spreading the disease to shore side personnel and your yard workers when the vessel comes into the shipyard for repair works.
2. Whilst a Ship Repair Framework is being finalised, for the yard's business continuity purposes, this set of best practices have been drawn up in consultation with the Ministry of Health (MOH) and yards are ***strongly encouraged*** to implement them in the meantime. Do take note of items highlighted in red.

| Shipyard Repair Calls in Singapore | |
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| Interim Precautionary Measures | |
| Passenger Ships ^[1] <i>(e.g. cruise ships, crew boats, yachts, ferries, etc.)</i> | Non-Passenger Ships <i>(e.g. tankers, bulk carriers, container and cargo vessels, oil rigs, semi-submersibles, FPSOs, offshore construction and offshore support vessels such as DSVs, AHTS, PSVs, pipelay vessels, etc.)</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ship meets Maritime and Port Authority's (MPA) prevailing conditions for vessel entry into the Singapore port limits. • Ship must have been at sea for minimally 14 days prior to entering the Port of Singapore, unless it had previously departed from Singapore without any embarkation; or arriving from a declared lay-up location or repatriation port where there has been no crew signed on or physical crew interaction with onshore personnel for minimally 14 days. • For entry into shipyards, the total number of crew onboard is less than 250 persons (until further notice). • There is a maximum of 20 sign-ons per technical call (following Singapore Tourism Board's (STB) prevailing guidelines for crew change for cruise ships). Sign-ons will be carried out according to MPA's crew | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ship meets MPA's prevailing conditions for vessel entry into the Singapore port limits. • Ship must not have had any sign-ons within the last 14 days prior to entering the Port of Singapore. • For entry into shipyards, the total number of crew onboard is less than 250 persons (until further notice). • An on-arrival swab test for all crew is done onboard the ship in the yard or berthed next to shore^[2]. No yard worker boards the ship for repair works until all crew swab test results are cleared. • If the ship had called on the list of countries in ICA's Travel Advisory (https://www.ica.gov.sg/covid-19/arrivalsg) requiring a pre-departure swab test under the "Short Term Visitors" column (e.g. Philippines, Indonesia, India, Fiji, Finland, etc.) within the last 14 days prior to entering the Port of Singapore, yards must ensure that: |

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| <p>change guidelines within 48 hours prior to ship's departure from Singapore.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a maximum of 50 sign-offs per technical call, as per existing conditions (following STB's prevailing guidelines for crew change for cruise ships). Sign-offs can be carried out in yard according to MPA's crew change guidelines and must be completed within 24 hours of the ship's arrival in the yard. • <u>Due to the larger number of crew onboard, sign-offs from cruise ships who require pre-departure swab tests are disallowed</u> (until further notice). • Crew change is allowed based on the prevailing limits for sign-ons and sign-offs. There is no shore leave based on the current NTL requirement (until further notice). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A negative swab test for all crew was taken before departure from the last port of call coinciding with the list of countries stated • There is a maximum of 20 sign-ons per technical call (following STB's prevailing guidelines for crew change for cruise ships). Sign-ons will be carried out according to MPA's crew change guidelines within 48 hours prior to ship's departure from Singapore. • There is a maximum of 50 sign-offs per technical call, as per existing conditions attached (following STB's prevailing guidelines for crew change for cruise ships). Sign-offs can be carried out in yard according to MPA's crew change guidelines and must be completed within 24 hours of the ship's arrival in the yard. • Any pre-departure swab tests required for sign-offs are to be done onboard the ship in the yard or berthed next to shore. • Crew change is allowed based on the prevailing limits for sign-ons and sign-offs. There is no shore leave based on the current NTL requirement (until further notice). |
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^[1] Passenger and Non-Passenger Ships together form an exhaustive list of all ships coming into our yards for repair.

^[2] Any Ministry of Health, Singapore (MOH), Licensed Healthcare Institutes (HCI) listed in the <https://www.moh.gov.sg/licensing-and-regulation/regulations-guidelines-and-circulars/details/list-of-covid-19-swab-providers> that is approved to perform offsite swab tests can perform the pre-departure swab test for sign-offs and on-arrival swab test onboard the ship in the yard or berthed next to shore. No swab tests shall be performed at anchorage. If the HCI is not approved by MOH Licensing Division, it will need to seek MOH Licensing Division's approval via eLIS@moh.gov.sg (cc cco@edb.gov.sg).

Details on arranging for the on-arrival PCR swab test

3. Ship agent/Shipyard can arrange for on-arrival PCR swab test onboard the vessel, after the vessel docks or berth next to shore in the shipyard. Note that these on-arrival swab tests must not be performed at.
4. Any MOH Licensed Healthcare Institute (HCI) listed on this website, <https://www.moh.gov.sg/licensing-and-regulation/regulations-guidelines-and-circulars/details/list-of-covid-19-swab-providers> can conduct on-arrival offsite PCR swab test onboard vessel only upon obtaining MOH's approval by following the steps below:
 - a. Register for offsite swab application with MOH

The appointed HCI can register their offsite swab application with MOH via <https://go.gov.sg/offsitecovid19swab>. The appointed HCI must ensure that all on-arrival

swab tests to be done onboard vessel in the shipyard or berthed next to shore. No on-arrival PCR swab tests can be done at the anchorage unless explicitly approved by MPA.

Please indicate "Yes" under Question 2 "Have HPB and Sector Lead endorsed this application?" in the link stated above for offsite swab application and follow-up with the next step below

b. Inform MOH Licensing Division and EDB Central COVID Ops Team

For urgent on-arrival onboard swabs (defined as swabs to be done over the next 10 calendar days), appointed HCI by Shipyards/Ship Agents, has to write in to the MOH Licensing Division (eLIS@moh.gov.sg) and copy to cco@edb.gov.sg to expedite the allowing of on-arrival and onboard vessel swabs to be done first while approval to conduct offsite swabs is being processed. Only appointed HCI may call MOH Licensing Division for urgent confirmation.

For non-urgent on-arrival onboard swabs, appointed HCI by Shipyards/Ship Agents, has to write in to the MOH Licensing Division (eLIS@moh.gov.sg) and copy to cco@edb.gov.sg to follow-up on the normal approval process where MOH Licensing Division must approve the appointed HCI before the on-arrival onboard swabs on the vessel crews can be performed.

E-mail to MOH Licensing Division to include the following information which is not exhaustive:

- I. Email header: Interim Precautionary Measure on Arrival Onboard PCR Swab Tests for inbound vessels' crew calling into shipyards for repairs only in shipyards or berthed next to shore.
- II. HCI Name;
- III. HCI Swabbers' name;
- IV. Ship agent/Ship owner/Shipyard name that appoint HCI;
- V. Date and planned time of Swab to be done;
- VI. Location of Swab to be done;
- VII. Application date to MOH eLIS for approval to perform offsite swab / show screenshot of approval to MOH eLIS submitted; and
- VIII. Laboratory Name where collected swabs will be tested::

Conclusion

5. Please find attached the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that will help you better understand this strong interim industry advisory put together by the agencies.
6. Should you have any queries, please feel free to reach out to your respective account manager either at the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) or Enterprise Singapore (ESG) directly. Alternatively, if you have any trouble locating them or have questions you'd like to raise that

cannot be found in the FAQ, please do drop us an email and we will do our best to respond as soon as possible.

7. We look forward to your kind understanding and cooperation on these important precautionary safety measures.

Thank you.

Best Regards,
ASMI Secretariat.

FAQs on Interim Precautionary Measures for Shipyards [Ship Repairs]

As of 25 November 2020

Q1 What is the objective of this set of interim precautionary measures?

A1 The agencies have observed rising incidences of infections amongst vessel crew regionally. If not detected and arrested swiftly, there is the risk of infected crew spreading the disease to shore side personnel and your yard workers when the vessel comes into the shipyard for repair works.

These measures have been drawn up with Ministry of Health's (MOH) guidance and have shown to be effective in detecting and arresting **COVID Positive (C+)** cases involving vessel crew, protecting the shipyards against business disruptions. Therefore, the agencies strongly urge shipyards to implement these measures to safeguard your business operations.

Q2 If the vessel is unable to meet the criteria in the advisory, can the shipyard still accept the repair job?

A2 This set of measures have been carefully calibrated to provide lines of defence against C+ cases from vessel crew spilling over to the shipyard and the broader community. It is with the interest of preserving business continuity that the agencies are strongly encouraging shipyards to implement these measures. Where there are C+ cases detected at the shipyard, the whole yard could stop work for a period of time to prevent further transmission, which will be even more disruptive and costly to the yard and ship owners.

Q3 The shipyard wants to preserve its business continuity but if there are genuine operational requirements for which some of the criteria stated in the interim precautionary measures cannot be met, what can be done?

A3 Companies can approach their respective account managers from EDB/ESG where appropriate or write directly to EDB Central COVID Ops (CCO) team at cco@edb.gov.sg, with your specific queries. The case will have to be discussed with inputs from MOH to assess if other suitable risk mitigation measures can be implemented.

Q4 How should my client's ship crew register for on-arrival swab test?

A4 Ship agent/Shipyard can arrange for on-arrival Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) swab test onboard the vessel, after the vessel docks or berth next to shore in the shipyard. Note that these on-arrival swab tests must not be performed at anchorage.

Any MOH Licensed Healthcare Institute (HCI) listed on this website, <https://www.moh.gov.sg/licensing-and-regulation/regulations-guidelines-and-circulars/details/list-of-covid-19-swab-providers> can conduct on-arrival offsite PCR swab test onboard vessel only upon obtaining MOH's approval by following the steps below:

1. Register for offsite swab application with MOH

The appointed HCI can register their offsite swab application with MOH via <https://go.gov.sg/offsitecovid19swab>. The appointed HCI must ensure that all on-arrival swab tests to be done onboard vessel in the shipyard or berthed next to shore. No on-arrival PCR swab tests can be done at the anchorage unless explicitly approved by MPA.

Please indicate “Yes” under Question 2 “Have HPB and Sector Lead endorsed this application?” and follow-up with the next step below.

2. Inform MOH Licensing Division and EDB Central COVID Ops Team

a) For urgent on-arrival onboard swabs (defined as swabs to be done over the next 10 calendar days), appointed HCI by Shipyards/Ship Agents, has to write in to the MOH Licensing Division (eLIS@moh.gov.sg) and copy to cco@edb.gov.sg to expedite the allowing of on-arrival and onboard vessel swabs to be done first while approval to conduct offsite swabs is being processed. Only appointed HCI may call MOH Licensing Division for urgent confirmation.

b) For non-urgent on-arrival onboard swabs, appointed HCI by Shipyards/Ship Agents, has to write in to the MOH Licensing Division (eLIS@moh.gov.sg) and copy to cco@edb.gov.sg to follow-up on the normal approval process where MOH Licensing Division must approve the appointed HCI before the on-arrival onboard swabs on the vessel crews can be performed.

c) E-mail to MOH Licensing Division to include the following information which is not exhaustive:

- a. Email header: Interim Precautionary Measure on Arrival Onboard PCR Swab Tests for inbound vessels’ crew calling into shipyards for repairs only in shipyards or berthed next to shore.
- b. HCI Name:
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- e. Date and planned time of Swab to be done
- f. Location of Swab to be done
- g. Application date to MOH eLIS for approval to perform offsite swab / show screenshot of approval to MOH eLIS submitted
- h. Laboratory Name where collected swabs will be tested: