Marine Transportation and COVID-19

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Abstract

This article provides a curated list of resources regarding COVID-19 - Coronavirus and the marine transportation system which includes ocean shipping, harbor operations, seaports, ferry systems, cruise ships, offshore industries, barge operations, and inland waterway system.

Resources from Authoritative Entities

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INTRODUCTION

The impacts of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) on the marine transportation system are widely felt and evolving quickly. Public agencies at all levels of government with stewardship and regulatory responsibilities over the marine transportation system which includes ocean shipping, harbor operations, seaports, ferry systems, cruise ships, offshore industries, barge operations, and inland waterway systems, are scrambling to understand the current and potential effects on operations, workforce, supply chains, and the traveling public. Private sector marine transportation operators and service providers are looking to the government and science-based institutions for guidance and are seeking relevant research findings, best practices, lessons learned, information on the current state of marine transportation, and projections for what may be coming next as the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic intensify and induce systemic impacts. As part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, the Transportation Research Board (TRB) provides leadership in transportation improvements and innovation through trusted, timely, impartial, and evidence-based information exchange, research, and advice regarding all modes of transportation. TRB has reach into the largest transportation researcher and practitioner pool in the world. We are responding to the urgent need for the rapid dissemination of existing research, research in progress, and the current state of understanding by curating lists of relevant resources from authoritative entities. This document includes links to authoritative and credible sources relevant to pandemic response and guidance that directly pertains to the maritime sector.

RESOURCES

CDC GUIDANCE SPECIFIC TO MARITIME

CDC Maritime Resources - General
https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/index.html

CDC Interim Guidance for Ships on Managing Suspected Coronavirus Disease https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/recommendations-for-ships.html
IMO ADVICE FOR IMO MEMBER STATES, SEAFARERS AND SHIPPING http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx
EUROPEAN COMMISSION Guidelines on protection of health, repatriation and travel arrangements for seafarers, passengers and other persons on board ships
SHIP OPERATIONS COOPERATIVE PROGRAM (SOCP) SOCP US Mariner Crew Change Facilitation Guidance COVID-19 (rev.1 2020 04-27) SOCP April Gam Recording: Critical Incident Issues, Stress, and Human Resilience (04/16/20) Ship Crew Activities - Things to Do with the Entire Crew (04/16/20) SOCP COVID-19 for Maritime Webinar PowerPoint (03/19/20)
RNS Express - Research Needs Statements Specific to Transportation and Pandemics http://www.trb.org/main/CallforRNSTransportationAndPandemics.aspx
TRB Webinar: Transportation & COVID-19 – Practices from Other Disease Outbreaks (March 23, 2020)
RECORDING: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/8121814623698401537
Special Resource: Transportation in the Face of Communicable Disease https://www.nationalacademies.org/trb/blog/transportation-in-the-face-of-communicable-disease
Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board – Open Access Articles on Transportation and Pandemics: https://journals.sagepub.com/topic/collections-trr/trr-1-transportation_and_pandemics/trr
U.S. COAST GUARD GUIDANCE
Exemption to Extend the Expiration Date of Certain Transportation Worker Identification Credentials https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2020/04/16/exemption-to-extend-the-expiration-date-of-certain-transportation-worker-identification-credentials/


MSIB: Novel Coronavirus – Mariner Credentials The Coast Guard has published MSIB 08-20 to provide guidance concerning mariner credentials and medical certificates and the action being taken by the Coast Guard due to the novel coronavirus and the disease it causes (COVID-19) https://mariners.coastguard.blog/2020/03/19/msib-novel-coronavirus-mariner-credentials/


Illness of a person onboard a vessel that may adversely affect the safety of a vessel or port facility is a hazardous condition per 33 CFR 160.216 and must be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port (COTP). Cases of persons who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must be reported to the COTP.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION GUIDANCE SPECIFIC TO MARITIME Operational considerations for managing COVID-19 cases/outbreak on board ships https://www.who.int/publications-detail/opera
tional-considerations-for-managing-covid-19-cases-outbreak-on-board-ships