



## ADVISORY TO MASTER

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Advisory #:** 02/2020 Rev 2

**Title:** Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of Coronavirus to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 30 January 2020.

This Advisory to Master will contain information that has been previously supplied by Fairport Yacht Support [Cayman Island Information Note (2019-nCov) & IMO Circ. Letter 4204 Novel Coronavirus] as well as information gathered through WHO. After detailed conversation with the Administration, the Administration has advised and highly recommended that ship owners, managers, and operators to track the developments regarding the Coronavirus on WHO's website. WHO also supplies a live situation chart of the current virus confirmation counts and locations on their website;

Website:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation Chart

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeee1b9125cd>

### How Does Coronavirus Spread

Coronavirus is mainly a respiratory transmitted virus, either directly from an infected personnel coughing/sneezing, or from contact with surfaces which has been contaminated by an infected individual who coughed or sneezed on that surface.

## **Symptoms**

- Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms...
  - Fever, coughing, and/or shortness of breath and breathing difficulties
- Other symptoms can include. . .
- Sore throat, muscle aches, and/or diarrhea

## **Protective Measures**

- Establish single point of entry/exit to the vessel with a sanitization station.
- Wash hands frequently (when soap and water are not readily available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer).
- Practice respiratory hygiene (Cover your coughs and sneezes with your bent elbow or tissue)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth to prevent contaminated hands transferring the virus into your body.
- Ensure all foods are thoroughly cooked and do not share consumables.
- Maintain distance from individuals with cough/sneezing symptoms (at least 1 metre distance).

## **Recommended vessel specific protection measures**

- The Master remains the authority for the safety and protection of the crew. Vessel movements and docking areas should take in consideration areas where virus is known to exist with destination and route planning/passage planning adjusted accordingly;
- The election to route crew to and from periods of leave remains at the discretion of the Master considering information supplied by the WHO; National Authorities and the US Government. It is recommended that unnecessary crew travel is discouraged, including rotational periods until such time that travel restrictions, if any are lifted.
- Recommended that prior to embarking on travel from leave, the crew seeks Medical clearance to travel, from a local doctor.
- If a crew member is joining from a period of leave, it is recommended they self-isolate locally to the location of the yacht for 14 days prior to coming aboard.
- Each yacht put in place procedures on how to address symptoms of COVID-19 in fellow crew members.
- An up to date medical insurance policy is verified for each crew member.
- The contact number of the health department closest to the yachts location be posted aboard, this may also be a yacht or ship agent ashore when it has been confirmed with the agent they are able to take action if notified of a case or cases of suspected COVID-19 aboard.
- With a travel ban effecting travel into the United States from Europe beginning 3/13/20 at midnight EDT. It is advised that a yacht coming to the USA from Europe, take at least 14 days from last port, which will effectively meet the requirement of self-isolation prior to entry.

- That the vessel is stocked with N95 type respirators and that these are made available to any crew member to use when so chosen.
- That crew members be familiar with local conditions regarding the instances of the virus, as published by the WHO and any travel restrictions on chosen leave routes or destinations.
- Keep proper communications with port agents for daily updates on local health updates.
- That any crew member or members showing signs of infection, be isolated in their cabin and following WHO guidelines, local authorities be contacted as soon as practicable.
- Crew member scheduled to return from leave should verify with the Master that no travel to areas of known infections has been undertaken during leave.

Graeme Lord

Fairport Yacht Support