



Shaping the Future of Shipping

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14TH February 2022

COVID-19(22)06

**TO: LABOUR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
BIWEEKLY MEMBERS MEETING PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GROUP PARTICIPANTS**

COVID-19 UPDATE AS OF 14TH February 2022

Action Required: Members are invited to note the following information relating to crew changes in Japan kindly provided by JSA.

Japan

Please find below the latest information for Japan effective February 10th 2022 kindly shared by JSA. To prevent Omicron variant effects, the MLIT strongly request shipping companies to minimize crew changes for a while (kindly not to call in Japan without cargo works).

Seafarers coming from India, Indonesia, Philippines, Russia, and Ukraine entering Japan shall:

- isolate within a hotel accommodation (or an institute) for 10 days (not at home).
- take a PCR test within 24 hours (or the previous day) of their departure flight, in addition to 72 hours pre-testing.

Seafarers not meeting the criteria will be refused to enter Japan (testing date, not certificate release date).

The MLIT strongly requests minimization of crew changes in Japan unless in emergency or expiry of MLC limitation. From late December 2021, the positive rate against COVID-19 at airport checks of seafarers from both countries has been exceptionally high. Thus, the Japanese quarantine authority has requested MLIT to announce new criteria for all relevant parties. Most seafarers showing “positive” may not have completed 10 days isolation.

JSA also reminds companies to educate crew members about COVID-19 infection.

1. Countries requiring a quarantine period of six (6) days are; , Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Italy, Nepal, the Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the USA (California, Florida, Illinois, New York,), Uzbekistan(PCR

Test is required on third day and sixth day after arrival)

2. Countries requiring a quarantine period of 3 days are; Albania, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil (Amazonas, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Parana, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catarina, Sao Paulo), Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech, Democratic Republic Of The Congo, , Ecuador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malawi, Maldives, Mexican United States, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Reunion, Romania, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, , Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the USA (except shown in the above 1), Zambia and Zimbabwe (PCR Test is required on third day after arrival)

The above list is for seafarers coming by air only.

In Japan, Despite the above criteria, the MLIT requests the seafarers stay in a Hotel accommodation during quarantine or waiting for boarding and conduct PCR testing every three days even if seafarers are vaccinated.

An on-signer who is a "close-contact" with an omicron variant infector, must stay in a designated accommodation prepared by the authority. During which, they must take PCR tests every two days. Once confirmed positive, they must be hospitalized. For seafarers, whose vessels stay in Japanese ports (before departure from the final Japanese port) after joining, the close-contact must take a PCR test every two days and be hospitalized after turning positive.

Border measures against Delta and other variants are currently no longer required.

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