

## POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR) TESTING

1. Enterprises in or serving the maritime sector (Enterprises)<sup>1</sup> must comply with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice. For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words '[Mandatory]'.

### Background

2. In view of the emergence of the Omicron variant of COVID-19, certain countries and/or regions have been specified on the internet website at <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg/shn-and-swab-summary> as places which, if included in a person's 14-day travel history, will result in such person being disallowed from entering into Singapore (unless he or she is a Singaporean Citizen or Permanent Resident) (the "**Specified Countries/Regions**")<sup>2</sup>. Persons (including Singaporean Citizens and Permanent Residents) with a 14-day travel history that includes the Specified Countries/Regions are referred to as "**Specified Travellers**".
3. Enterprises are required to ensure that the relevant employees and persons who work under their direction (please refer to paragraph 5 for details) undergo regular Polymerase Chain Reaction ("**PCR**") testing regardless of their vaccination and recovery status<sup>3</sup>.
4. The testing and the other mandatory requirements set out in this notice are imposed on Enterprises under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020. Failure to comply with the requirements set out herein may result in prosecution and/or other enforcement action, including suspension/closure of operations. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice.

### PCR Testing Requirement

5. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises must ensure that all employees<sup>4</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>5</sup>, who work as shore-based personnel that board vessels at anchorages, shipyards, terminals and marinas, in the Port of Singapore which had a port of call at any Specified Country/Region in the last 14-days ("**Specified Vessels**")<sup>6</sup> on a regular basis<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Enterprises include self-employed persons and legal entities.

<sup>2</sup> As of the date of this notice, the countries and/or regions that have been specified are Botswana, Eswatini, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa and Zimbabwe. **The list of countries and/or regions may be changed from time to time and enterprises should keep themselves updated on the prevailing list.**

<sup>3</sup> All individuals, including those who (a) are fully vaccinated with an approved COVID-19 vaccine, (b) have recovered from a COVID-19 infection, or (c) are certified by a medical practitioner to be medically ineligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19, are required to comply with the PCR RRT regime.

<sup>4</sup> This includes both full and part time employees.

<sup>5</sup> This includes contractors, subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace (e.g. cleaners) where applicable.

<sup>6</sup> You may refer to MPA's Port Marine Circular No. 45 of 2021.

<sup>7</sup> A Worker boards Specified Vessels on a regular basis if he or she does so at least once a month.

(collectively, “**Group A Workers**”), undergo a PCR test for COVID-19 once every seven (7) days at a Combined Test Centre (“**CTC**”) or any other testing centre arranged by the Maritime and Port Authority (“MPA”)<sup>8</sup> (the “**PCR RRT Requirement**”).

6. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises must ensure that all employees<sup>9</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>10</sup>, who work as shore-based personnel that board Specified Vessels on an ad-hoc basis<sup>11</sup> (collectively, “**Group B Workers**”), undergo a PCR test for COVID-19 at a CTC or any other testing centre arranged by MPA<sup>12</sup> on each of the following days upon disembarkation from a Specified Vessel as part of the Post-Exposure Testing Requirement:

- (1) on the day of disembarkation (“**Day 1 Test**”);
- (2) if the test result of the Day 1 Test shows that the Worker is negative for COVID-19 infection, on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) day of disembarkation (“**Day 3 Test**”); and
- (3) if the test result of the Day 3 Test shows that the Worker is negative for COVID-19 infection, on the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day of disembarkation (“**Day 7 Test**”)

(hereinafter referred to as the “**PCR Post-Exposure Testing Requirement**”).

7. Group A Workers and Group B Workers shall collectively be referred to as “**Workers**”.
8. **[Mandatory]** After Workers undergo the PCR RRT or PCR Post-Exposure Testing Requirement (as the case may be), Enterprises shall:

- (1) not allow any Worker that has obtained a PCR test result showing that he or she is positive for COVID-19 infection to enter or remain at the workplace<sup>13</sup>;
- (2) only allow the Worker described in paragraph 8(1) to enter or remain in the workplace if he or she has been subsequently assessed by a medical practitioner to be non-infectious and discharged based on the Ministry of Health’s guidelines, or have received a discharge memo under the Home Recovery Programme.

9. Only Group B Workers shall resume regular 3D (twice weekly<sup>14</sup>) Fast and Easy Testing (“FET”) Rostered Routine Testing (“RRT”) after the PCR Post-Exposure Testing Requirement.

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<sup>8</sup> You may refer to [https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/quick-test-centres-\(qtcs\)](https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/quick-test-centres-(qtcs)) for a list of CTCs.

<sup>9</sup> Please refer to footnote [4].

<sup>10</sup> Please refer to footnote [5].

<sup>11</sup> A Worker boards Specified Vessels on an ad-hoc basis if he or she does so on less than one occasion every month.

<sup>12</sup> Please refer to footnote [8].

<sup>13</sup> This refers to the regular workplace of the Worker, which may include, but is not limited to, the shipyard, terminals, anchorages, marinas and vessels.

<sup>14</sup> A 3- to 4-day interval between their weekly tests (e.g. if a Worker’s first test of the week is carried out on Tuesday, his or her second test of the week should be carried out on Saturday or Sunday).