



Our Ref No: HM INSTRUCTION NO. 001/07/2021

To: Vessel Agents, Vessel Owners, SAASOA Members,  
Bunker Operators, Ship Chandlers,  
Offshore Operators, Vessel Crew Shuttle Services,  
Stevedore Companies, Terminal Operators

cc: TNPA Chief Executive, Chief Harbour Master,  
Executive Manager - SHE, Port Managers,  
Port Health, SAMSA Principal Officers

## TO BE COMMUNICATED INTERNALLY & EXTERNALLY

### PORT OF SALDANHA BAY HARBOUR MASTER'S INSTRUCTION NO. 001/07/2021 - HEALTH RISK ALERT – COVID-19 ADJUSTED ALERT LEVEL 4 – AMENDED – EFFECTIVE 12 JULY 2021

Note that TNPA Notice No.12 remains in force.

#### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The main function of Transnet National Ports Authority ("TNPA") is to own, manage, control and administer ports to ensure their efficient and economic functioning. TNPA values its employees, stakeholders and port users, and as such deems it important to continuously review permitted activities against existing risks and address any deficiencies in the system in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (National Ports Act No.12, 2005).
- 1.2 In terms of the Ports Act No.12 of 2005 and the Port Rules, TNPA is obliged to issue Harbour Master's instructions to protect Transnet Employees and all Port Users. As such, all Port Users must comply with TNPA specific requirements, the Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002, the relevant amendments thereto, as well as all other applicable regulations intended to prevent the entrance and spread of Covid-19 variants in the country.

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**TRANSNET HAS A 'ZERO GIFTS' POLICY. NO EMPLOYEE IS ALLOWED TO ACCEPT GIFTS, FAVOURS OR BENEFITS**

## **2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COVID-19 CONTROL MEASURES FOR ALERT LEVEL 4**

- 2.1 The following measures are implemented in light of the recent Covid-19 incidents, an increase in number of Covid-19 cases, for the protection of port front line workers and to minimise the negative impact of Covid-19 on port users. These measures are introduced to ensure efficient and effective continuance of port services and movement of cargo in the port.
- 2.2 It is mandatory for all vessel masters to make accurate Maritime Declarations of Health and to report the well-being of all crew and passengers on-board a vessel to the Authorities including any suspicions of any other health infections. Any false declaration will be viewed in a serious light and reported to the South African Maritime Safety Authority and Port Health officials for further action that may result in either detention, a fine, and/ or additional penalty measures taken. The Master is responsible and accountable for all the crew on-board the vessel and will be held liable for any false declarations.
- 2.3 Vessel Masters must make a declaration of crew who joined the vessel in the last 30 days and the transit points they went through. This includes the declaration of stowaways if any on-board.
- 2.4 All vessels arriving from outside South African (SA) Ports are required to conduct Covid-19 testing for their crew prior to entry into port – a minimum of a rapid test is acceptable.
- 2.5 If the last port of call was a South African port, the results of the tests conducted in that port will be usable in the next South African port. It will not be necessary to conduct another round of Covid-19 tests.
- 2.6 No shore leave will be permitted except for emergency reasons in which case permission must be obtained from the Harbour Master.
- 2.7 All vessels calling at South African Ports must have a Covid-19 management plan in place having identified all risks associated with its activities and have clear mitigation measures in place.
- 2.8 The daily temperature monitoring must be accurately recorded and must be made available for inspections by any Authority.
- 2.9 Vessels at the anchorage are to conduct Covid-19 testing prior to berthing.
- 2.10 Vessels calling Off Port Limits (OPL) for crew changes must ensure all off signing crew is tested – however vessels calling for stores and spars are not required to be tested.

2.11 Night-time crew changes and Covid-19 testing for OPLs where applicable, to be approved by SAMSA.

2.12 Vessels calling to ports with limitations in terms of night tests – to plan accordingly.

Please note that the above Instruction must be complied with and any deviation will only be permitted by the Harbour Master. Suspected cases should be reported to Port Health Office on call line no: **0800 029 999** as well as the Harbour Master and SAMSA.

By order of:



**Capt Silindile Mdlalose**

Harbour Master: Port of Saldanha

Date: 09/07/2021