



KYSTVERKET NORWEGIAN COASTAL ADMINISTRATION

Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) Pilot Service response to Covid-19

This document provides information to partners of the NCA Pilot Service on the safe conduct of pilotage operations during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. The coronavirus is affecting us all, and the NCA have implemented national regulations to the seagoing traffic¹.

MAIN ITEMS IMPLEMENTED AT NCA PILOT SERVICE:

- 1) All personnel within the Pilot Service are informed (kept updated) and following the general advice² given by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. This means, amongst other things, that;
 - a. We do not go at work with symptoms of the flu, nor do we stay in contact with persons with symptoms of the flu.
 - b. We strongly limit physical meetings.
 - c. We take general preventive measures – such as observing and keeping good hand hygiene and cough etiquette and avoiding close physical contact.
 - d. We encourage our Pilots to use gloves, and we do not limit our Pilots to *not use* facemask, if they are presented the opportunity. However, we would like to emphasize that the Norwegian Institute of Public Health do not advice the use of facemask or gloves as a rule for the public.
 - e. We continuously seek ways of transportation for our Pilots that lowers the possibility for close physical contact with other persons, e.g. rental cars.
- 2) The Pilot Service have established;
 - a. A crisis staff with 24/7 response in order to keep an overall overview.
 - b. Continuity plans for the delivery of an operational service.
 - c. Daily (and live when needed) reporting from Pilot Masters on local events.
- 3) All vessels must confirm whether there are persons aboard the vessel with symptoms of flu or other symptoms that can be related to Covid-19 in SafeSeaNet Norway (SSNN) and if any indications – report to Vardø VTS (+47) 78 98 98 98. This status is presented for NCA and the Pilot, when given the assignment.
- 4) In case of doubt, procedures for pilotage of a vessel that *has or could have* Covid-19 on board is in force.
 - a. Remote pilotage to safe haven for clinical assessment of ships health.
 - b. The Pilot Service will NOT embark a ship without proper measures in place if we suspect, or where infection from Covid-19 has been reported.

CONCLUSION:

We can assure you that the Norwegian Pilot Service, considered a national service provider of critical value by the Norwegian transport authorities, is taking into account and carrying out, all the precautionary measures recommended and given by the Norwegian

¹ <https://www.kystverket.no/en/News/the-coronavirus-and-seagoing-traffic/>

² <https://www.fhi.no/en/id/infectious-diseases/coronavirus/>

Institute of Public Health. The Pilot Service also emphasizes a focus on preventive means to reduce the spread of Covid-19, in order to safeguard the good health of our own employees, all our partners, and all our customers.

The NCA Pilot Service will not meet any partners' specific demands or additional requirements based on the ongoing pandemic. The Pilot Service assures all partners that national regulations and even extra measures are in force. Cooperation between NCA and our users is a prerequisite for our respective tasks and safe conduct of our operations. We all share the same common goal – to stay healthy and not spread this virus.

Based on the above, please share this information within your organization to provide a traditional handling of, and courtesy for, our Pilots during pilotage.

Capt. Erik Blom
Director Norwegian Pilot Services