



INTERTANKO

The International Association of Independent Tanker Owners

– For safe transport, cleaner seas and free competition –

www.intertanko.com

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Covid-19 Impact on the Tanker Industry

In light of control measures put in place to limit the global spread of Covid-19, INTERTANKO Members are taking measures to assist these efforts. As you are no doubt aware, operators are being affected in their ability to relieve crews from ships, arrange SIRE and CDI inspections, complete repairs and supply spares, and ensure statutory and Class certification is issued and up to date.

Difficulties for seafarers to travel and join ships are widespread and likely to continue for some time as the Pandemic runs its course. The impact on families, the mental welfare of seafarers and the onset of long-term fatigue are very real concerns. In addition, impacts on the crew matrix and statutory limits on crew trip length have become inevitable.

Our Members rely on the seamless implementation of vetting and inspection regimes administered by OCIMF and CDI. However ships are increasingly unable to get vetting inspectors to attend their vessels. This means that many tankers are unable to maintain their regular inspection schedules.

I am writing to you in order to open a dialogue between our organisations.

Since we must assume that the problems will continue for several months, our Members, through no fault of their own, may not be able to comply with your regular requirements. Flexibility is therefore needed to ensure sufficient tonnage is available to carry global oil, gas and petroleum products and avoid knock-on effects for the global economy.

Inspection reports are maintained on the OCIMF and CDI systems for 12 months or longer and time restrictions on their validity are purely the choice of individual charterers. Our Members are planning ahead and undertaking Sire/ CDI inspections wherever possible, including during loading or idle if necessary. They will inform their charterers of any cancellations of inspections, and are keeping detailed records of all refusals/ cancellations of inspections; as well as any problems related to travel for seafarers, superintendents, inspectors etc.

Based on the urgency of the situation and the proactive steps taken by my company and those of my fellow Members, I would like to encourage you to apply similar levels of pragmatism in the application of your internal rules and

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requirements and to recognise the best efforts INTERTANKO Members are making to comply with inspection regimes.

We can facilitate communication of your (temporary/ Covid-19-related) procedures to INTERTANKO Members, like we do through the *Vetting Guide* your company regularly contributes to, in order to ensure we are all working together and acting in a cohesive manner to counter this global challenge.

Yours sincerely,

Paolo d'Amico
Chairman
INTERTANKO