



ENDING OF CIRCUIT BREAKER - TRANSITION TO PHASE ONE (SAFE OPENING)

1st June 2020

CDAS 2020/6/MMECB – COVID-19

Dear CDAS Members & Commercial Diving Community,

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and everyone around you is well.

It's a tough season for many during the circuit breaker period, lockdowns and movement restrictions have exerted a huge cost, with major impact towards our industry. We felt for you but we also observe many have innovate and accommodate gradually in these tough times. As a quote says "After the rain there's a rainbow, after a storm there's calm, after the night there's a morning, and after an end there's a new beginning..."

From 2nd Jun 2020, Singapore will gradually re-open economic activities that do not pose high risk of transmission. The road ahead to a COVID-safe environment may be time consuming however if everyone plays their part, we can get through this and emerge stronger from this episode. Below are some points to take note for all in CDAS and the Commercial Diving Community.

CIRCUIT BREAKER END & PROCESSES

- The list of businesses that may operate from 2nd June 2020 can be found in this link: <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/permittedlist>
- For those who still need to get permission to operate they must submit their appeal and manpower details via <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg> within two weeks of the date of resumption of operations. For approved companies who wish to add on their manpower must do the same. For instance, if you have a project and deem fit for freelance personnel you must submit their particulars first and obtain approval before deploying them at the project site.

WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- As advised by Ministry of Manpower working from home must be the default mode of working (including companies resuming operations in Phases One and Two). Employees who have been working from home so far must continue to do so, and go to the office only where there is no alternative.
- For employees who are still unable to work from home, employers should review work processes, provide the necessary IT equipment to employees and adopt solutions that enable remote working and online collaboration. Employers are encouraged to leverage technology to ensure business continuity and safe management.
- Implement shifts or split team arrangements: For suitable workplace settings, employers must split employees at workplace premises into teams, with each team restricted to one worksite wherever possible. No employee should work in more than one team or worksite
- For more information do visit: <https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>

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"SAFE DIVES SAFE LIVES"

SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- Employers must establish a system to implement the above Safe Management Measures to provide a safe working environment and minimise risks of COVID-19 outbreaks. These measures must be implemented in a sustainable manner for as long as necessary.
- Implement a detailed monitoring plan to ensure compliance with Safe Management Measures and timely resolution of outstanding issues¹⁹. For office area's and worksites implement the QR code check in / out system.
- Appoint Safe Management Officer(s) ("SMO") to assist in the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the system of Safe Management Measures at the workplace. For unionised companies, union leaders or WSH officers could be appointed as SMOs. Employers must provide appointed SMOs with adequate instruction, information and supervision as is necessary for them to fulfil their required duties.

The duties of the Officer(s) include:

- To coordinate implementation of Safe Management Measures, including identifying relevant risks, recommending and assisting in implementing measures to mitigate the risks, and communicating the measures to all personnel working in the workplace.
- To conduct inspections and checks, to ensure compliance at all times. Any non-compliance found during the inspections should be reported and documented.
- To remedy non-compliance found during the inspections and checks through immediate action.
- To keep records of inspections, checks and correction actions, to be made available upon request by a Government Inspector.
- For more information visit: <https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>

PLANNING A DIVE OPERATIONS

- It is essential that appropriate measures are identified and put in place to minimise the risk from the COVID-19 to all persons taking part in a company diving operations. Diving Companies should ensure that the COVID-19 risk control measures they introduce are properly intact with local government guidance and risk assessed prior to the commencement of diving operations.
- The epidemiological situation is constantly evolving, a dedicated person or SMOs must be appointed to monitor, mitigate and report.
- All that are involved in a diving operation must have their temperature checks done before and after the operations.
- Those who develop any symptoms such as dry cough, high body temperature, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat, body aches and chest pains, diarrhoea must be identified early and send for medical attention. To learn more on the symptoms do visit: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
- Social Distancing must be in place and where possible maintain a minimum distance of at least one metre between individuals.
- All diving team personnel are encouraged to download and use the Trace Together APP



- All personnel in the dive operations should adhere to good hand washing and respiratory hygiene to avoid the risk of passing any potential viruses. Hand sanitiser must be available at project site / dive boats and where deem fit.
- If deem physical tool box / safety meeting or any human interactions, maintain a minimum of one metre apart from one another and wear a mask.
- Ref to industry information such as <https://www.imca-int.com/alert/1676/covid-19-update/> for regular up dated

DIVING EQUIPMENTS

- Companies must at these times must increase the maintenance of dive apparatus /equipment.
- It is common practice to share diving helmets among the dive team hence during this period it is Important to clean and sanitise helmets, band masks and full-face masked.
- The oral nasal mask, the microphone, nose block and the expiratory part of the demand regulator should be sanitised after each use.
- Issuance of individual oral nasal mask with valve, nose block would be an added prevention during these times.
- Companies are to check manufacturers guidelines concerning sanitisation products to use on their apparatus / equipment
- Reference Kirby Morgan Bulletin #3 Dated 23rd March 2020 Cleaning and Sanitizing Kirby Morgan Helmets, Band masks and Full-Face Masks (IMCA D13/20)

We strongly urge all to abide to the guidelines and point listed. You may write in to CDAS for more enquiries or visit the following weblink below to read on the guidelines, situations and latest news;

www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19

www.mpa.gov.sg

<https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19>

CDAS well wishes for all to stay safe, be vigilant and May we all pull this thru together successfully.

Yours Sincerely,

Shahreel

Chairman

Commercial Diving Association (Singapore)