

Cover letter

- 1 To expand our vaccine coverage further and to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19, all enterprises in or serving the maritime sector (“**Enterprises**”)¹ are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test (“**VoRT**”) regime with effect from 1 October 2021.
- 2 Enterprises implementing the VoRT regime must ensure that all their employees² and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors and sub-contractors) or at their premises³, as set out in Table 1 below (“**Workers**”), are “Fully Vaccinated” or undergo COVID-19 testing twice a week if they are not.

Table 1: Workers

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any individual who is required to go onboard vessels⁴ in the Port of Singapore 2. Employees⁵ of (i) Port Operators⁶; (ii) essential contractors⁷ of Port Operators; (iii) Pilotage Service Provider⁸ 3. Essential contractors of Port Operators staying in the Port Operators’ dormitories 4. Crew deployed on board harbour craft⁹, who have a shore-based residence in Singapore 5. Workers at Designated Holding Facilities¹⁰, land transport drivers and launch boat operators¹¹ facilitating crew change 6. Employees and essential contractors¹² of the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator¹³ working in the protected area¹⁴ within the regional ferry terminal or who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal, as well as shore-based personnel¹⁵ who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal 7. Crew deployed on board harbour craft, whose registered residential address is a harbour craft
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¹ Enterprises include self-employed persons and legal entities.

² This includes both full and part time employees.

³ This includes contractors, subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace (e.g. cleaners).

⁴ For individuals who go onboard vessels not more than 2 times a month, if they are not already on a 3D FET RRT, they are required to take (i) an ART test within 24 hours prior to boarding, (ii) an ART test within 12 hours upon disembarking the vessel, and (iii) undergo subsequent ART tests on day 3 and day 7.

⁵ Such as lashing workers, stowage workers, stevedores, safety liaison officers, lifting supervisors, port operations officers, Workplace, Safety and Health (WSH) officers and marine pilots.

⁶ PSA Corporation Pte Ltd and Jurong Port Pte Ltd.

⁷ Companies that Port Operators contract to carry out essential port terminal operations (e.g. Lashing, Stevedoring).

⁸ PSA Marine Pte Ltd.

⁹ A vessel licensed under the MPA (Harbour Craft) Regulations.

¹⁰ Copthorne King’s Hotel Singapore, Seacare Hotel and Hotel Re!.

¹¹ At Marina South Pier and West Coast Pier.

¹² Entities that the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator contract with to carry out essential regional ferry terminal operations and services (cleaning, security, portage etc).

¹³ Singapore Cruise Centre Pte Ltd.

¹⁴ Premises in the regional ferry terminal declared in a protected area order to be a protected area under the Infrastructure Protection Act, which may include, arrival/departure halls, jetties/berths, security screening and baggage sorting.

¹⁵ Any individual who is not a passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry and (a) is delivering goods or performing services connected to the business of the vessel/ferry; (b) is providing any service to any passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry onboard the vessel/ferry; or (c) is effecting the arrest or detention of a vessel or service of any other legal process, whether or not a contractor or an employee or agent of the owner or agent of the relevant vessel/ferry.

8. Crew deployed on board MPA licensed "SZH" Pleasure Craft¹⁶ doing charter
9. Crew on board Off-Port Limits (OPL) Vessels
10. Crew on board regional ferries operated by Regional Ferry Service Operators¹⁷
11. Tuas Port workers carrying out reclamation works
12. Any individual entering the workplace¹⁸ of Port Operators and Pilotage Service Provider
13. Workers (e.g cleaning staff, security guards) at Marina South Pier, West Coast Pier and Changi Point Ferry Terminal

- 3 The VoRT regime will apply concurrently with the RRT regime that the Workers are subject to. Enterprises are required to continue to comply with the RRT requirements for the Workers.
- 4 Enterprises whose Workers are subject to Polymerase Chain Reaction Rostered Routine Testing ("PCR RRT") or Fast and Easy Testing Rostered Routine Testing ("FET RRT") regime can recognise any PCR test or ART undergone by those Workers during a given week as counting towards the Enterprises' testing requirement for those Workers (if they are not Fully Vaccinated) under the VoRT regime for that same week as set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2: VoRT requirements for Enterprises

Workers	VoRT regime for unvaccinated persons
	ART
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any individual who is required to go onboard vessels in the Port of Singapore 2. Employees of (i) Port Operators; (ii) essential contractors of Port Operators; (iii) Pilotage Service Provider 3. Essential contractors of Port Operators staying in the Port Operators' dormitories 4. Crew deployed on board harbour craft, who have a shore-based residence in Singapore 5. Workers at Designated Holding Facilities, land transport drivers and launch boat operators facilitating crew change 6. Employees and essential contractors of the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator working in the protected area within the regional ferry terminal or who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal, as well as shore-based personnel who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal 	Day 3; Day 7

¹⁶ As defined in the MPA (Pleasure Craft) Regulations.

¹⁷ Entity licensed by MPA to provide regional ferry services under MPA (Port) Regulations 63G.

¹⁸ Such as canteens, workshops, port terminals and marine services base.

<p>7. Crew deployed on board harbour craft, whose registered residential address is a harbour craft</p> <p>8. Crew deployed on board MPA licensed "SZH" Pleasure Craft doing charter</p> <p>9. Crew on board Off-Port Limits (OPL) Vessels</p> <p>10. Crew on board regional ferries operated by Regional Ferry Service Operators</p> <p>11. Tuas Port workers carrying out reclamation works</p> <p>12. Any individual entering the workplace of Port Operators and Pilotage Service Provider</p> <p>13. Workers (e.g cleaning staff, security guards) at Marina South Pier, West Coast Pier and Changi Point Ferry Terminal</p>	<p>Day 3; Day 7</p>
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- 5 Please refer to the enclosed notifications ("**VoRT Notice**" and "**RRT Notice**") for more details on the obligations of enterprises that are required to implement the VoRT and RRT regimes.

Support for Enterprises

- 6 Enterprises should conduct Employer Supervised Self Swab ("**ESSS**") for persons who are required to undergo testing twice a week under the VoRT regime. ESSS involves having these persons use an Antigen Rapid Test ("**ART**") kit to carry out a swab on themselves under the supervision of a supervisor. The enclosed VoRT Notice explains further details on how ESSS should be conducted.
- 7 To support enterprises that are conducting ESSS, the Government will bear the costs of ESSS ART test kits through 31 December 2021. Enterprises should be prepared to fund the ESSS ART test kits from 1 January 2022 onwards as part of business costs.
- 8 The Government will also give further support for enterprises that conduct ESSS by providing ART test kits to enterprises for persons who have been certified by a medical practitioner in Singapore as medically ineligible to receive mRNA COVID-19 vaccines and are still required to undergo testing twice a week under the VoRT regime ("**Medically Ineligible Worker(s)**" or "**MIW(s)**"). Enterprises should verify a person's status as a MIW by checking against the original certification or memo that was issued to that person by a medical practitioner in Singapore or the SMS notification sent to that person. The Government's provision of ART test kits to enterprises for these MIWs will continue through 31 December 2021, and enterprises should be prepared to fund these kits from 1 January 2022 onwards as part of business costs. For avoidance of doubt, all other persons who are not Fully Vaccinated are ineligible for these Government-provided ART test kits and enterprises should make arrangements to comply with the requirements set out in the VoRT Notice.

- 9 To place an order for ART test kits for MIWs, enterprises should submit the relevant information using the Order Form found at <https://form.gov.sg/60e3ab95967a900012ae2aac> ("**Order Form**"). Enterprises that carry out their businesses across multiple premises (e.g. outlets) should submit a consolidated Order Form for all their premises¹⁹. Enterprises must not distribute, supply or sell the ART test kits provided by the Government to any third party.
- 10 The costs for the services and ART test kits that will be used at the Quick Test Centres will also be borne by the Government for MIWs through 31 December 2021.

Workforce Vaccination Measures (in accordance with the Ministry of Manpower (MOM)'s Press Release dated 23 October 2021 on the Implementation of Workforce Vaccination Measures)

- 11 Vaccination reduces the risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 infection. To keep our workforce safe, from 1 January 2022, only Workers who are fully vaccinated²⁰ or have recovered from COVID-19 within the past 270 days, can return to the workplace.
- 12 Unvaccinated Workers are not allowed to return to the workplace unless they have tested negative for COVID-19. Workers on the VoRT regime can return to the workplace on the days they undergo regular testing if their ART test is negative. Additional Pre-Event Test ("**PET**") at an MOH-approved COVID-19 test provider²¹ is required on the other days that regular testing is not done and the PET must be valid for the duration²² that the Workers are required to be present at the workplace.

Support from Enterprises

- 13 The fight against COVID-19 requires the collective effort of everyone in the community. We seek the support and understanding of all Enterprises during this period. We will continue to review and adjust the measures in line with the national posture for the health and well-being of the public and employees.
- 14 For more details on the VoRT and RRT regimes, please visit sector specific requirements under the maritime sector at <https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/>. You may also contact the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) via swab@mpa.gov.sg for further clarifications.

¹⁹ For enterprises with multiple outlets under the same UEN, you may submit your request to create multiple SRS company accounts under the same UEN. However, there must be a unique mobile number and email address used for each account. Enterprises without a UEN can indicate their NRIC in the UEN field instead.

²⁰ An individual is considered vaccinated if he/she has been fully vaccinated, i.e. has received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective and had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems.

²¹ <https://www.moh.gov.sg/licensing-and-regulation/regulations-guidelines-and-circulars/details/list-of-covid-19-swab-providers>

²² Negative ART results are valid for 24 hours.