**Dear Enterprises** 

# [UPDATED] FAST AND EASY TESTING FOR THE LAND TRANSPORT SECTOR

1. Since late-June 2021, the Fast and Easy Testing ("FET") regime has been progressively rolled out for all higher risk sectors, including the Land Transport sector. With effect from 1 September 2021 (for Bus Operators), 4 October 2021 (for Train Operators) and 1 November 2021 (for Point-To-Point Passenger Transport Industry Operators), all enterprises in the Land Transport sector 1 ("Enterprises") must comply with the mandatory requirements 2set out in this updated notice ("Notice"). For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words '[Mandatory]'.

## **Background**

- 2. The purpose of the FET regime is to further reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in settings with unmasked clients or where services are performed under prolonged and close contact with clients. Under the FET regime, Enterprises are required to ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors and subcontractors) undergo regular FET using the COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test ("ART"), regardless of their vaccination status. Self-employed persons working in these settings should also ensure that they adhere to the FET regime.
- 3. The FET regime and the mandatory requirements set out in this Notice ((including the footnotes herein) are imposed on Enterprises under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020. Failure to comply with the requirements set out herein may result in prosecution and/or other enforcement action, including suspension/closure of operations<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Enterprises include:

Public Transport Operators (e.g. Go-ahead Singapore, Tower Transit Singapore, SBS Transit, SMRT (1) Corporation Ltd): and

<sup>(2)</sup> Point-to-Point (P2P) Passenger Transport Industry Operators ("P2P Operators") (e.g. Comfort Transportation Pte Ltd, CityCab Pte Ltd, Strides Taxi Pte Ltd, Trans-Cab Services Pte Ltd, Premier Taxis Pte Ltd, Prime Car Rental & Taxi Services Pte Ltd, GrabCar Pte Ltd, Velox Digital Singapore Pte Ltd, TADA Mobility Singapore Pte Ltd and Ryde Technologies Pte Ltd).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Individuals who have recovered from a COVID-19 infection in the past 270 days are exempted from the FET Requirement. If the infection was more than 270 days ago, they can be exempted from the FET Requirement only if they are fully vaccinated. This includes persons who a) recovered from a COVID-19 infection and subsequently receives at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine (two doses if Sinovac or Sinopharm) that has been authorised under the Health Sciences Authority's Pandemic Special Access Route or listed on the World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) no earlier than 3 months after the date of positive PCR, and b) are fully vaccinated before being infected with COVID-19 and subsequently recovering from it. Persons who received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before being infected would need to receive their 2nd dose (3rd dose if Sinovac or Sinopharm) to be exempted. For individuals who are re-infected, the 270 days exemption starts from the date of the first C+ result of the re-infection.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Enterprises are reminded to comply with the other requirements imposed under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 and implement the Safe Management Measures ("SMMs") as set out on the COVID Gobusiness website. They are also reminded to comply with the relevant SMMs that have been set out by Government Agencies.

## **FET Requirements for Enterprises**

- 4. **[Mandatory]** All Enterprises must ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction<sup>4</sup> (collectively, "**Workers**") undergo FET<sup>5</sup> at least once every 7 days (the "**FET Requirement**").
- 5. **[Mandatory]** After their Workers undergo FET, Enterprises shall verify<sup>6</sup> the test results obtained by their Workers;
- 6. Where the Worker has obtained an "AG+" test result, Enterprises are strongly recommended to guide the Worker to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on the Ministry of Health's ("MOH") website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.
- 7. To meet the FET Requirement, Enterprises are encouraged to conduct **Employer-Supervised Self-Swab** ("**ESSS**") for their Workers. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 9 to 17 below. The costs for the ART test kits that will be used for ESSS will be borne by the Government of Singapore until 31 December 2021.
- 8. Enterprises that operate businesses which are not able to organise supervised self-swabs on their own, may meet the FET Requirement by having their Workers undergo FET at one of the Quick Test Centres ("QTC(s)"). For this group, the costs for the services and ART test kits that will be used at the QTCs will also be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021. Other groups which are able to conduct ESSS but prefer to have their Workers undergo FET at the QTCs will need to pay for the services and ART test kits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This includes contractors (e.g. cleaners, security personnel), subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace. For P2P Operators, this <u>only</u> refers to the following Workers:

<sup>(</sup>i) any individual holding a taxi driver vocational licence who has entered into a leasing agreement or arrangement with an Enterprise for the lease of a taxi which also grants that individual the right to drive that taxi to transport passengers for hire or reward as part of that agreement or arrangement, regardless of whether they work at the workplace or otherwise;

<sup>(</sup>ii) any individual holding a taxi driver vocational licence who has entered into a sub-leasing agreement or arrangement with an individual described in (i), who is granted the right to drive that taxi to transport passengers for hire or reward as part of that arrangement or arrangement, regardless of whether they work at the workplace or otherwise;

<sup>(</sup>iii) any individual holding a taxi driver vocational licence who has entered into a part-time leasing or adhoc leasing agreement or arrangement with an Enterprise under a "taxi-share" or similarly instituted agreement or arrangement which also grants that individual the right to drive a taxi to transport passengers for hire or reward as part of that arrangement or arrangement, regardless of whether they work at the workplace or otherwise;

<sup>(</sup>iv) any individual holding a chauffeured private hire car driver vocational licence who has entered into an agreement or arrangement with the Enterprise where the Enterprise takes or facilitates any booking by or on behalf of a passenger for the chauffeured private hire car, driven by that individual, which is made available, or to be made available, to transport that passenger for hire or reward and that booking is communicated to the individual as part of that agreement or arrangement, regardless of whether they work at the workplace or otherwise, and

<sup>(</sup>v) any individual who does not have a vocational licence, who has entered into an agreement or arrangement with the P2P Operator where the P2P Operator takes or facilitates a vehicle pooling arrangement between that individual and other passengers ("carpool driver").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The ART test must be carried out (1) by an approved test provider under the Infectious Diseases (Antigen Rapid Test Providers); (2) via ESSS (refer to paragraphs 9 to 16 below) or (3) by fully vaccinated Workers themselves described under footnote 4 for P2P Operators.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Enterprises are required to inspect any physical test result slip, SMS or test kit evidencing the test result of the Worker. It would not be sufficient for Enterprises to rely on oral statements by Workers to fulfill this obligation.

# Requirements for Enterprises conducting ESSS

- 9. ESSS involves Workers using an ART kit and performing a swab on themselves under the supervision of a supervisor ("**Supervisor**"). The swabbing and supervision can be done either at the workplace or virtually using tools such as video conferencing.
- 10. **[Mandatory]** To satisfy the FET Requirement, Enterprises conducting ESSS for their Workers shall:
  - (1) appoint an adequate number of Supervisors to ensure that each and every Worker is supervised by a Supervisor whenever they carry out ESSS;
  - (2) ensure that the Supervisor properly performs his supervisory role<sup>7</sup>;
  - (3) ensure that Workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 13 below and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
  - (4) ensure that the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the Swab Registration System ("SRS") in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 14 below; and
  - (5) ensure that the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the Health Sciences Authority's website at <a href="https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19">https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19</a> ARTselftests
- 10A. Where the Workers have obtained an "AG+" test result while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>. The follow-up ART under Protocol 2 does not need to be carried out under supervision and the results do not need to be uploaded to SRS. Enterprises are to use self-sourced ART test kits for the follow-up ART tests and not those that have been supplied by the Government of Singapore under the FET regime.

## Requirements for Supervisors

11. [Mandatory] If a Supervisor is above 50-years-old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (i.e. they received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination under Singapore's national vaccination programme or any other vaccine regimen as approved by MOH<sup>8</sup> and 14 days have passed from the time of the second dose<sup>9</sup>) before he or she can perform any supervisory role.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision and being familiar with how ART kits are to be correctly used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Please refer to the First Schedule of the Infectious Diseases (Mass Gathering Testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Regulations 2021) for the most updated information on the vaccination regimen and approved vaccines.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify Workers' vaccination status via TraceTogether.

12. Enterprises that are conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per outlet to perform the role of the Supervisor.

### Conduct of ESSS by Workers

- 13. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers comply with the following when carrying out ESSS:
  - (1) Workers are to be supervised<sup>10</sup> by a Supervisor whenever they carry out ESSS;
  - (2) Workers are to use new ART test kits whenever they carry out ESSS; and
  - (3) Workers are to properly dispose of used ART test kits after they have carried out ESSS<sup>11</sup>.

# Uploading of Test Results onto SRS

- 14. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to upload the test results<sup>12</sup> obtained by their Workers from ESSS onto SRS<sup>13</sup> in accordance with the following:
  - (1) if the test result is "AG+", Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker onto SRS <u>no later than 12 hours</u> after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed;
  - (2) if the test result is "AG-", Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker no later than 24 hours after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed; and
  - (3) the requirements set out under paragraphs 4 to 6 of **Annex A**.
- 15. More details on the registration for an SRS account can be found in paragraph 19 below.

Management of Workers with 'AG+' Test Result

16. **[Mandatory]** If any Worker obtains an 'AG+' test result from ESSS, the Enterprise shall comply with all the requirements set out under paragraphs 6 and 7 of **Annex A**.

### **Support for Enterprises conducting ESSS**

17 The Government of Singapore will be supplying ART test kits to Enterprises until 31 December 2021. To order the ART test kits, Enterprises are required to submit the relevant information using the form at <a href="https://go.gov.sg/fet-registration-pcs">https://go.gov.sg/fet-registration-pcs</a> ("Order

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> For the purpose of meeting the mandatory requirement in paragraph 14, P2P Operators are required to report the AG+, AG- and any C+ test results obtained from their Workers within such time and in the manner specified by the Sector Lead Agency, which in this case, is the Land Transport Authority of Singapore (LTA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Details on how to register for an SRS account can be found at paragraph 19 below.

**Form**"). The ART test kits will be delivered to Enterprises on a first-come-first-served basis. Enterprises shall only use the ART test kits that are supplied by the Government of Singapore for ESSS (for Workers who are not carpool drivers) and shall not distribute, supply or sell them to any third-party. ART Test Kits must be used with prudence and Enterprises need to ensure that one employee only uses one test kit for one cycle of RRT, unless the test result is "AG invalid".

- The Point-of-Contact<sup>14</sup> ("**POC**") stipulated in the Order Form must be the Worker who will be responsible for uploading of test results onto SRS.
- The information that is submitted on the Order Form will also be used by the relevant Government agencies to help Enterprises set up an SRS account. Once the SRS account has been set up, your POC will receive an email notification informing them about the creation of the SRS account and how to upload test results onto it.

## **Support from Enterprises**

- 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.
- 21 For more details on the FET regime, please visithttps://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/covid-19/sector-testing. You may also contact the Sector Lead Agency <sup>15</sup> via OMCG\_HDMON@Ita.gov.sg (for Public Transport Operators) and LTA-P2P\_Applications@Ita.gov.sg (for Point-to-Point Passenger Transport Industry Operators) for further clarifications.

Annex A: FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Enterprises are also able to nominate an alternate POC per outlet, if they wish to do so.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Enterprises can approach the following Sector Lead Agency: Land Transport Authority of Singapore (LTA).

#### **ANNEX A**

# FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

## A. <u>FET Test Results</u>

- 1. Workers will be required to undergo ART to satisfy the FET Requirement. ART test kits will return one of three possible test results:
  - (1) negative or "AG-";
  - (2) positive or "AG+"; or
  - (3) invalid or "AG Invalid".
- 2. Workers who obtain an "**AG Invalid**" test result are required to immediately undergo a follow-up ART until they obtain an "AG+" or "AG-" test result.
- 3. If a Worker undergoes ART at a QTC, they may be issued with a test result slip or sent an SMS stating the test result that they have obtained. Alternatively, the test results of these Workers can also be found on their TraceTogether or HealthHub phone applications.
- 4. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS, <u>Image 1</u> below illustrates how the different test results will be shown on the SD Bio Sensor ART test kit (which will be the ART test kit distributed to Enterprises). Please note that the lines on the test kit cassette will appear in 15 30 minutes ("**Checking Window**") after the specimen buffer has been added to the test well. Enterprises shall only upload the test results that are shown on the test kit cassette <u>during</u> the Checking Window onto SRS.

Image 1: Test results on SD Bio Sensor

Negative Test Result ('AG-')	Positive Test Result ('AG+')	Invalid Test Result ('AG Invalid')
Boig marking at 'C' and No marking at 'T'	Bolo marking at 'C' and Bolo marking at 'T'	No marking at 'C' and Bold marking at 'T'
	Bold marking at 'C' and Faint marking at 'T'	No marking at 'C' and No marking at 'T'

- 5. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS and uses an ART kit other than the SD Bio Sensor ART test kit, Enterprises are to refer to the manufacturer's instructions on how to interpret the test results obtained by their Workers and only upload the test results that are obtained pursuant to these instructions onto SRS.
- 6. If the Enterprise had incorrectly submitted an "AG-/AG+" result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises are to email <a href="mailto:AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg">AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg</a> with the below information:
  - a. NRIC
  - b. Name
  - c. Date of FET test affected by erroneous result
  - d. Company/ Employer for FET RRT
  - e. Client's email address
  - f. Final result to be displayed (AG+,AG- or Remove Test)
  - g. Screenshot of the SMS received (Optional)
- 7. Enterprises are strongly recommended to guide Workers who obtain "AG+" test results from ESSS to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at https://www.moh.gov.sg/