

COVID-19 & Testing – Deep Sea & Coastal Pilots

21st January 2022

In view of restrictions and infections around Europe, we are pleased to advise the continuation of testing for our Deep Sea Pilots prior to boarding vessels, should our clients require.

Please find further information below regarding procedures and the costs involved if testing is required prior to boarding:

- Additional cost to expenses of £60 - £120 for the cost of a COVID-19 PCR test. Please note this may be more expensive if rapid turnarounds are required.
- We are encouraging our pilots to also take a lateral flow test (LFT) immediately prior to boarding the vessel, for added assurances.
- Notice of testing requirements are a minimum of 5 days. This will allow DSCP adequate time to arrange a test and receive results back prior to boarding.
- Confirmation from vessel/owners that a test will be required at least 5 days in advance of pilot boarding, as well as acceptance of the costs involved.
- Pilots based overseas will take a COVID-19 test in their country of origin prior to travel. If a test is required in the country of joining, please advise with at least 5 days notice. Please also be aware this will come with increased travelling expenses due to the need for accommodation whilst awaiting test results.
- For pilots joining vessels overseas, we can arrange a test prior to flying if required, again with 5 days notice. We can arrange for tests in the country of boarding if needed, but this will again come with increased costs whilst we await results.
- Results of testing will be sent to vessels prior to the pilot joining with an aim of 3-5 days between test and boarding. We are able to arrange these at shorter notice in some cases, but please provide plenty of warning and expect a slightly higher cost.
- Please be advised that testing timings cannot be guaranteed due to changing ETAs/ETDs, as well as allowing time to rearrange another test if a positive/damaged result is received. We also have a number of pilots who do not live near testing sites and therefore will need to do this via post, adding to the timeframe.
- 98% of our pilots are fully vaccinated and anyone who is not, is required to take a PCR test prior to joining a vessel as well as a LFT prior to boarding. All of our vaccinated pilots are currently getting their booster vaccinations.

Our aim is to provide our clients with further assurances around COVID-19 due to the important role our service plays in vessel safety and mitigating risk of incident. We have been constantly monitoring our procedures and due to these strict policies, we have had no cases of infection amongst our pilots whilst on board a vessel.

Kind Regards,
Chris Brooks



Director
Deep Sea & Coastal Pilots