

Guidance for Air Travel through the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis



Cargo Module

Cargo flight crews should apply the same health and safety considerations as passenger flight crews and are collectively included in the crew section of this document. Whilst air cargo consignments do not come into contact with the travelling public, the cargo acceptance and hand over process does include interaction with non-airport employees. The Cargo Module addresses aviation public health including physical distancing, personal sanitation, protective barriers point of transfer to the ramp and the loading and unloading, and other mitigation procedures.

The elements of this module are:

Cargo-Module --- Road Feeder to Freight Reception and freight pick-up
Cargo-Module --- Within Cargo facility --- Origin --- Destination --- Transit
Cargo-Module --- Cargo facility to ramp --- Origin --- Transit --- Destination
Cargo-Module --- Aircraft --- Loading --- Unloading

Cargo Module - Road Feeder to Freight Reception and Freight Pick Up

To protect cargo handling staff and truckers during the handover points for physical freight (in warehouse) and documentation (often office).

Considerations

- Onsite biosafety principles
 - Proximity for document handover should be minimized, floor markings should be indicated and / or appropriate PPE to be worn.
 - Wherever possible hand washing or alcohol-based hand sanitizer on entry.
 - Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces (handles, kiosks, etc.)
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer available for users of kiosks, etc.
 - Identify area(s) for donning and doffing of PPE as required

- Physical handover of goods (truck offload)
 - Driver to stay in vehicle cabin until instructed (as per relevant procedures)
 - Physical distance to be kept between driver and facility staff where possible
 - Close contact of personnel to be limited, wearing PPE where appropriate

- Documentation handover (office)
 - Implement digital document systems and data exchange wherever possible
 - Physical distancing at least 1 meter to be kept between all parties where possible, use of floor markings or to wear the appropriate PPE;
 - Where physical documents need to be signed, each signatory should do so with their own pen
 - Physical barriers installed (transparent) at counters and reception
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer available when entering or exiting common areas

- Material Handling Equipment (MHE) usage (forklifts, hand carts, etc.)
 - To avoid cross contamination, MHE should be cleaned and disinfected after use;
 - Employees should be educated and practice personal hygiene principles –
 - Wear appropriate PPE where necessary

Means for uniform implementation

- Wall posters, handouts, downloadable from carrier and GHA web sites, see attached sample.

Cargo Module - Within Cargo facility - Origin - Destination - Transit

To protect Cargo facility (warehouse) staff during business operations such as build-up, breakdown, repositioning and documentation handling.

Considerations

- Onsite biosafety principles
 - Physical distance to be kept at all times when operational safety is not compromised
 - Close proximity for build-up operations minimized or wear appropriate PPE
 - Maintain crew rotations for 14-day periods to avoid cross-infection
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer on entry into common areas
 - Regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces (handles, mobile devices, kiosks, etc.)
 - Sanitizer available for users of kiosks, shared mobile devices, and other shared devices.

- Physical handling goods
 - Physical distance to be kept when operational safety is not compromised;
 - When not possible (e.g. 2 person lift required for heavy cargo) appropriate PPE to be worn.
 - Wear appropriate PPE where necessary

- Material Handling Equipment (MHE) / Ground Support Equipment (GSE) usage
 - To avoid cross contamination MHE and GSE should be cleaned and disinfected between uses;
 - All employees should be educated and practice personal hygiene principles –
 - Wear appropriate PPE where necessary

Means for uniform implementation

- Posters displayed through cargo facility and staff rest areas.

Cargo Module - Cargo facility to ramp - Origin - Transit - Destination

To protect staff during the Cargo facility handover to/from ramp crews in preparation for aircraft loading and unloading.

Considerations

- Onsite biosafety principles
 - Physical distance to be kept at all times when operational safety is not compromised or wear the appropriate PPE.
 - Regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces (handles, kiosks, etc)
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer available for users of kiosks, shared mobile devices, etc.
 - Close proximity for handover minimized (drop zones, etc) or appropriate PPE worn.
 - Maintain crew rotations for 14-day periods to minimize cross team infection
- Physical handover of goods
 - Physical distance to be maintained, cargo drop zones used where possible.
 - close contact of personnel to be limited, PPE where necessary
- Ground Support Equipment (GSE) usage
 - To avoid cross contamination, GSE should be cleaned and disinfected between users
 - All employees should be educated and practice personal hygiene principles –
 - Wear appropriate PPE where necessary

Means for uniform implementation

- Posters displayed in staff rest areas.

Cargo Module - Aircraft Loading – Unloading

To protect ramp handling staff during the loading and unloading of the aircraft performed by multiple crews of 3-4 depending on the operation. Ensuring enhanced bio safety when the number of close contact personnel rises during manual loading of the passenger cabin.

Considerations

- Onsite biosafety principles
 - Physical distance to be kept at all times when operational safety is not compromised or wear the appropriate PPE.
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer on entry into common areas
 - Regular cleaning and disinfection of surfaces (handles, mobile devices, kiosks, etc.)
 - Alcohol-based hand sanitizer available for users of kiosks, shared mobile devices, etc.
 - Close proximity of staff for loading minimized or PPE used particularly for in passenger cabin loading
 - Maintain crew rotations for 14-day periods to avoid cross team infection
- Physical Loading of goods
 - Physical distance kept when operational safety is not compromised (encourage single person operations)
 - close contact of personnel to be limited, wearing appropriate PPE where necessary
 - For “human chain” loading in cabin, PPE should be used (masks and gloves) and hygiene principles applied between operations.
- Material Handling Equipment (MHE) / Ground Support Equipment (GSE) usage
 - To avoid cross contamination, MHE/GSE should be cleaned and disinfected between users
 - All employees should be educated and practice personal hygiene principles –
 - Wear appropriate PPE where necessary

Means for uniform implementation

- Posters in staff rest areas
- Use the Airport COVID-19 Cleaning / Disinfection Control Sheet (PHC Form 3) or a similar one where appropriate.