



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH ALERT 2020-03 [27 January 2020]

The “Novel Coronavirus”



Countries with Confirmed Cases to Date

As the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee begins to develop this OSH Alert, we are aware of five (5) confirmed cases of the Coronavirus presently on U.S. soil. We are also aware of the situation on the ground at Wuhan Province, China (inclusive of Wuhan port), wherein thousands of confirmed cases have been established. The situation there is extremely serious.

At present, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has implemented detection activities (passenger screening) at several U.S. airports. That's wise, inasmuch as the threat of importation there is quite significant in terms of numbers. As yet, similar measures have not yet been implemented at U.S. seaports where the importation threat is less numerically severe.

The U.S. Maritime Administration and local Port Authorities are, however, monitoring unfolding circumstances very carefully.

At present we would like to provide our management and labor stakeholders with access to CDC's increasingly active Coronavirus webpage, which provides an amazingly complete amount of information about this threat:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Our best (conservative) advice: Continue to monitor the CDC webpage for updates. Also, port workers/managers obliged to interact with ship's personnel aboard a vessel that called at Wuhan port, China recently, should wear a simple filtration facemask (in line with manufacturer's recommendations) during that interaction and avoid direct (skin to skin) contact.

Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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