

Dear Master ,

***Re: Covid 19 - Urgent safety precautions to be followed by vessels calling at
All ports in Sri Lanka.***

In order to mitigate the threat of transmission of Covid 19 (Corona Virus) to the Marine Pilots and harbour maritime community, following measures must be followed by all vessel operators:

- Vessel's crew attending to Pilot services and the bridge team should be equipped with proper PPE. (E.g. Respiratory protection equipment, gloves etc.)
 - Any crew member entering the bridge should thoroughly wash their hands and face prior to entering the bridge, and sanitize their hands again immediately upon entering.
 - Please maintain a supply of hand sanitizer on the bridge. Any member of the bridge team, including the Pilot, should use hand sanitizer on their hands whenever they feel necessary to do so.
 - Please allow only the essential personnel in the wheelhouse while a Pilot is onboard.
 - Cool and dry conditions should be maintained on the bridge. Avoid humid conditions which may enable a virus to stay alive on surfaces.
 - In the hour prior to the pilot boarding, wipe down the entire bridge with a 5% solution of bleach water (including the chart table, instruments, chairs, helm, entire console, handrails, windows, etc.)
 - Please ensure that all coffee cups and utensils on the Bridge are thoroughly cleaned.
 - Pilots may make awareness of the above conditions as part of the Master/Pilot Exchange.
 - If the helmsman or ship's officers see that the Pilot fail to comply with any of the above conditions, they should not hesitate to speak up and remind the Pilot to do so.
- Please carry out the above procedures and confirm to Port Control that the required precautions have been/will be taken.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Hambantota International Port.