

**Updated on 27 June 2020**

## **ADVISORY FOR A SAFE AND CONTROLLED RESTART OF THE MARINE & OFFSHORE SECTOR FROM 2 JUNE 2020**

1. The Multi-Ministry Taskforce announced on 19 May 2020 that the Circuit Breaker measures will gradually ease from 2 June 2020. The Marine & Offshore sector will be allowed to resume work in phases, but in a safe and controlled manner to minimise the risk of a COVID-19 resurgence.
2. Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 (“COVID-19 Act”) and the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 (“Control Order”), activities under Marine & Offshore<sup>1</sup> which have been suspended during Circuit Breaker shall remain so even after 1 June 2020, until such time when approval from the Economic Development Board (EDB) or Enterprise Singapore (ESG) on behalf of the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) is obtained for the relevant works to be restarted.

### **Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors**

#### *Essential Ship Repair and Maintenance Activities*

3. **Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors** previously approved by MTI during the Circuit Breaker to carry out essential ship repair and maintenance activities are allowed to continue without EDB/ESG’s approval, subject to earlier approved manning levels. These works in this paragraph will be referred to as “**Earlier Permitted Activities**”.
4. Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors undertaking Earlier Permitted Activities must adhere to the additional COVID-Safe Restart criteria for Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors (Marine & Offshore), and **submit their safe management plans within 3 weeks from 2 June 2020**. Workers performing **Earlier Permitted Activities**, who work on the Shipyards’ production sites or at Contractors’ workshops and/or live in dormitories, will also be required to undergo regular swab tests from 2 June 2020.

#### *Other Activities*

5. Any **restart of shipbuilding, rig building and ship repair works and increase in manning levels** will require EDB/ESG’s approval on behalf of MTI. For **Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors** eligible for resumption of work from 2 June 2020, EDB/ESG will notify the respective companies of the application process during the week of 1 June 2020. Companies which do not

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<sup>1</sup> This includes Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors as per the Ministry of Manpower’s (MOM’s) definition of the Marine Shipyard Sector, and other companies under Singapore Standard Industrial Classification (SSIC) codes 28112, 28241, 30110 and 30120.

receive notification from EDB/ESG within the week of 1 June 2020 should expect to resume work at a later date.

6. Eligible companies must similarly comply with additional COVID-Safe Restart Criteria for Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors (Marine & Offshore); i.e. COVID-Safe Workforce, COVID-Safe Worksite and COVID-Safe Accommodation and Transport, where relevant.

(a) **COVID-Safe Workforce:** Employers must ensure that the following groups of employees undergo regular swab tests:

- i. Employees who work on the Shipyards' production sites or at Contractors' workshops; and/or
- ii. Employees who stay in purpose-built dormitories, factory-converted dormitories, construction temporary quarters or temporary occupation licence quarters.

Upon receiving companies' applications, EDB/ESG will inform relevant companies on the swab test arrangements. If any workers who are working are found to have missed regular testing, EDB/ESG reserve the right to withdraw any approval given for resumption of works. The Government had earlier announced that it would pay for the periodic swab test for the M&O sector, up to August 2020. The Government will now continue to bear the costs of COVID-19 testing for the M&O sector until 31 March 2021, to help ensure a safe restart.

(b) **COVID-Safe Worksite:** The national digital check-in system SafeEntry must be deployed to record all entries and exits. Additional COVID-Safe Restart measures must be enforced at worksites to prevent major COVID-19 outbreaks. These include segregating workers by split teams that minimise interaction and have staggered breaks. Safe Management Officers (SMOs) and/or Safe Distancing Officers (SDOs) are to be appointed as part of safe management measures at the worksite.

(c) **COVID-Safe Worker Accommodation and Transport:** Employers are to segregate workers by split teams that minimise interaction at their places of accommodation and provide dedicated transport for workers living in dormitories to and from their work sites, if workers are not residing at onsite accommodation.

7. It is essential for all companies along the value chain to cooperate and minimise the risk of a COVID-19 resurgence.

8. The full listing and details of the COVID-Safe Restart Criteria for Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors (Marine & Offshore) may be downloaded from MTI's GoBusiness portal (<https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg>).

## Other Marine & Offshore Companies

9. Other Marine & Offshore companies (excluding Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors) previously approved by MTI during the Circuit Breaker to carry out essential activities may continue without EDB/ESG's approval, subject to earlier approved manning levels.
10. Companies wishing to resume work or increase current manning levels can apply for General Exemption via MTI's GoBusiness portal (<https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg>) from **1 July 2020**. Companies requesting to deploy foreign workers staying in dormitories should verify that their workers are living in dormitories with COVID-19 free status and have COVID-19 free health status before filing an application.
11. Companies must put in place safe management measures, in line with the Ministry of Manpower (MOM)'s latest advisories<sup>2</sup>.

## Audit and Inspection

12. An Audit and Inspection regime will be implemented by MOM to check on the implementation of COVID-Safe management measures. Marine & Offshore companies will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the measures and all prevailing legal and regulatory requirements, and for putting in place the procedures and COVID-Safe management plans or declaration checklists, approved by EDB/ESG on behalf of MTI.

## Updates and Clarifications

13. There will be regular reviews of measures and requirements as the global and local COVID-19 situations evolve. You can refer to MTI's GoBusiness portal (<https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/>) for updates.
14. For foreign-owned enterprises and large local enterprises, please contact EDB at <http://www.edb.gov.sg/en/contact/contact-us.html> if you have any queries or require clarifications. All other local enterprises can contact ESG at <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/contact-us/> if you have any queries or require clarifications.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD and ENTERPRISE SINGAPORE,  
ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY**



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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>

**Table 1: Summary of Application Processes for Work Resumption in the Marine & Offshore Sector**

Company Segment	Application needed?	Additional criteria to be met?
<p><b>Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors<sup>3</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Earlier Permitted Activities</b> can continue after 1 June 2020 without further approval, subject to earlier approved manning levels. Companies are to submit their safe management plans within 3 weeks from 2 June 2020.</p> <p>Any <b>increase in manning levels and the resumption of shipbuilding, rig building and ship repair works</b> require EDB/ESG’s approval on behalf of MTI. <b>Eligible companies will be notified by EDB or ESG during the week of 1 June 2020 to apply.</b></p>	<p>COVID-Safe Restart Criteria for Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors (Marine &amp; Offshore):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) COVID-Safe Worksite</li> <li>b) COVID-Safe Workforce</li> <li>c) COVID-Safe Accommodation</li> <li>d) COVID-Safe Transport</li> </ul> <p>Required swab tests for workers who work on the Shipyards’ production sites or their Contractors’ workshops, and/or live in dormitories.</p>
<p><b>Other Companies (excluding the above) under SSIC codes 28112, 28241, 30110 and 30120</b></p>	<p><b>Earlier Permitted Activities can continue after 1 June 2020 without further approval</b>, subject to earlier approved manning levels.</p> <p>For any increase in manning levels or to resume onsite operations, companies can apply for General Exemption via MTI’s GoBusiness portal (<a href="https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/">https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/</a>) from <b>1 July 2020</b>.</p> <p>For requests to deploy foreign workers staying in dormitories, companies should verify that their workers are living in dormitories with COVID-19 free status <u>and</u> have COVID-19 free health status before filing an application.</p>	<p>MOM’s Safe Management Measures<sup>4</sup></p>

<sup>3</sup> This refers to Shipyards, Resident Contractors and Common Contractors as per MOM’s definition of the Marine Shipyard Sector.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures>