

Operational Update: COVID-19 - LEVEL RED

25th February 2022

Normal or nearly normal		Service degraded, some delays		Service severely degraded, major delays	
Overall status:					
<p>Key points: Omicron's effect is starting to be felt across the supply chain. The impact is gaining momentum as our own numbers increase but we are aware of a number of our supply chain partners also struggling.</p>					
<p>We also share for your information an article from Splash 24/7 about Boxport congestion which provides some insights into the ongoing challenges around the world.</p>					
Marine Services					
No change.					
Container terminal vessels at anchor					
Nil					
Shipping					
Vessels scheduled to arrive over the next few days (note: times may change):					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently alongside: 'KALLIROE 018S' (BAE) & 'ROTTERDAM BRIDGE 409S' (CNS) • Berthing 27th February: 'MSC BANU KE204A' • Berthing 28th February: 'KETA 2203' (ANLTRZ) • Berthing 1st March: 'SHILING 007' (NZS) 					
<p>Please note vessel berthing dates are indicative. We will keep the website updated with the most current information.</p>					
Labour supply – COVID-related absence rate today is 20%					
<p>This absence rate is having a moderate impact on operations. We expect lower throughput over coming weeks as the Omicron surge continues.</p>					
<p>We are using Rapid Antigen Tests before staff enter the workplace to both slow the spread of COVID at work and allow staff who are close contacts to continue working.</p>					
<p>Link/On-dock Empty Container Depot – Link facility is at 52% utilisation. Lines are working to get empties in for forthcoming vessels. Capacity across the supply chain, labour and trucking capacity remains tight as other supply chain stakeholders experience loss of staff to positive cases or close contacts.</p>					

Road Services – Operations running well with turn times of 20 minutes. In the last 48 hours 730 import containers left the terminal via road and 157 left via rail.

Stage 2 of automation testing has resumed.

As of Monday 21st February, drivers who have not completed their inductions for Automation will not be allowed into the Terminal and nor those drivers who have not confirmed having achieved their vaccination status. Having sent repeated reminders to companies over the last 5 weeks we have suffered significant congestion and delays at the truck grids at times as drivers have turned up not having completed the induction or presented their vaccine pass.

Please be mindful of those drivers who have completed what is required but are now being delayed by those who haven't. Please ensure any outstanding are completed ASAP and do not send down drivers who have not been inducted or had their vaccine pass confirmed.

Please be advised due to increasing COVID Positive cases affecting our Gate Ops team we have decided to close our Fergusson Container Terminal R&D operations tomorrow evening. Bookings are traditionally very low on Saturday nights and current bookings were in single digits. Trucking companies affected will be advised and alternative arrangements made. Therefore, the Terminal R&D will be closed from 1800 hours Saturday night (last bookings at 1730 to allow trucks to arrive up until 1800 and processed before shift change) and restarting again from 0730 Sunday (carriers can book in from 0700).

Rail Services – Rail operations have suffered some operational constraints due to staff availability, but like all supply chain partners they are doing the best they can given the current operating challenges.

Other –

Multi-cargo Operations

Berth and Yard Capacity – Container/Bulk berths are currently at 85% utilisation but increasing to 100% over the weekend and next week with receivals for inbound vessels continually being hindered by Import volumes and bulk volumes.

Captain Cook, Marsden, Bledisloe yards and the Car Handling Facility are around 40% utilisation. But will increase to 100% over the weekend and will continue for the coming weeks.

Congestion is set to continue with large container and breakbulk volumes being presented @ R&D, and MC will remain under pressure at least for the next few weeks so we encourage carriers to continue to liaise with the shipping lines on receivals and operating hours.

POAL/MC Ops team request all efforts for key stakeholders to resource for the swift delivery of cargo within its permitted free time. Extensions for free time and any additional storage will not be considered.

Road Services – Container and Breakbulk R&D is busy. The multi cargo truck grid can be congested during busy periods and is being managed accordingly.

R&D service issues must be directed to the Shipping Line and their nominated stevedore directly keeping our MC team in copy.

Vehicle Transporters are encouraged to communicate with Multi Cargo Ops for staging areas and any subsequent issues.

<p>Other – COVID-19 controls remain in place. Masks must be worn on port and all visitors should use N95 masks if available as they are more effective against the Delta and Omicron variant. Always stay two metres away from all other people. Do not physically approach Ports of Auckland staff or people from other organisations, please respect and maintain safe social distancing. Vaccine Passes will be checked for everyone entering the Waitematā seaport according to the port COVID-19 Policy.</p>	
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Friendly reminders: A reminder - Customer Services enquiries should continue to be directed to CustomerServiceC@poal.co.nz. The team can be reached via their normal phone number: **09 348 5360**. Hours of work: Monday to Friday 07:00hrs to 19:00hrs and Saturday 07:00hrs to 15:00hrs.

For Container Terminal VBS Bookings please refer to the bookings system in the first instance. For any essential cargo bookings, hazardous, active reefers or please email driverassist@poal.co.nz.

Next update will be on Monday 28th February 2022.