**COVID SAFETY Protocols**

**Truck drivers spend approximately 25% of their time performing non-driving activities.**

The following list describes some of the potential exposures to Covid for drivers when performing their non-driving duties:

* Close contact with others during pick-up and delivery
* Exposure to contaminated areas of the cab when using a shared vehicle
* Touching potentially contaminated items during the course of the delivery, such as:
  + Touching pens when signing for pickups or deliveries,
  + Handling clipboards with paperwork during the signing process
  + Touching the keypad of a handheld screening device used for proof of delivery
  + Touching cargo during loading and unloading
  + Touching the entry door at facilities during delivery.
  + Other potential exposures that may be encountered include:
* Touching pump handle, exterior of vehicle, keypads at fueling stations, or other materials.
* Use of washrooms at rest stops or at warehouses (doors, taps, sinks etc.).
* Close contact with people or other drivers at rest stops.

**CONTROLS**

Infection prevention and control measures prevent the spread of the virus by breaking the chain of transmission.

* Use physical distancing. Avoid close contact and take extra care in indoor settings and shared spaces.
* Wearing masks limits the spread of the virus. Please be reminded that most face coverings (non-medical masks) have not been tested to a known standard and do not constitute PPE.
* Any mask, whether medical or non-medical, should not be viewed as an appropriate substitute for physical distancing in the workplace.
* Washing hands removes the virus and prevents people from touching their faces with contaminated hands.
* Cleaning the cab before starting your shift and at the end also helps reduce transmission.
* Avoiding use of shared items such as pens and clipboards
* Washing /sanitising hands before and after touching shared surfaces such as fuel pumps, handles, loads and straps

**1. Maintain physical distancing.** Physical distancing generally means maintaining a distance of at least 2 metres or more between persons. By maintaining physical distancing, you are less likely to be exposed to a respiratory virus.

**2. Clean vehicle cab frequently.** Cleaning methods should be employed with special attention to certain areas as specified below. (Note: If using a shared vehicle, it is important to clean the cab before leaving the depot).

* Wear a mask when cleaning the cab. Do not touch your face while cleaning.
* Many non-penetrable surfaces in the cab can be cleaned with detergent/sanitiser and water. Frequently touched surfaces in the interiors of the cab and components should be cleaned first with detergent and water and then disinfected.
* Dispose of any gloves and other soiled cleaning materials in a sturdy plastic bag as soon as possible. Tightly tie the bag and dispose of it immediately.
* Remove garbage from the cab regularly.
* Wash your hands once cleaning is complete

**3. On-route deliveries**. The following methods should be employed when stopping at a delivery point:

* Limit the amount of face-to-face contact during deliveries.
* Scan in using QR codes.
* Wear your mask upon arrival.
* If possible, stay in the cab and wait for cargo to be loaded/unloaded.
* Use technology to communicate with shippers/receivers.
* Wait in a separate designated area if one is available to avoid close contact with others.
* Avoid the use of shared pens.
* Use technology (scanning devices) for proof of delivery.
* Once the delivery/stop is complete, ensure that you wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer (alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60-90% alcohol), before returning to the vehicle.

**KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR SYMPTOMS**

• new or worsening cough

• sneezing and runny nose

• fever

• temporary loss of smell or altered sense of taste

• sore throat

• shortness of breath

• remember that with the Omicron variant, symptoms may be mild

**IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS**

• GO HOME immediately, call Healthline 0800 358 5453 or your GP and isolate until you get a negative COVID test.

• Inform Staffline (phone, text, email or in person) of any COVID like symptoms.

• If you are COVID positive, you need to INFORM Staffline as soon as possible.

• Please inform Staffline if you are a close contact of a confirmed COVID case.

• Follow Health and Safety guidance of the client sites. If you have any concerns about your safety, then you should contact Staffline as soon as possible.