

Recommendations for the behaviour of the driver

The Ministry of Transport, having regard to Cabinet Order No 103 of 12 March 2020 on the announcement of an emergency situation (hereinafter - Order), in order to ensure the limitation of the spread of Covid-19 infectious disease, has developed recommendations for Latvian and foreign transport service providers and companies serving them.

- The driver of the vehicle (hereinafter - driver) shall avoid socialising when fulfilling his/her work duties. The driver shall take care of himself and others. The voyage shall only be stopped in places related to the performance of the transport or the provision of basic needs (petrol station, toilet) subject to a distance of 2 m from other persons in these places.
- The employer shall provide the driver with disposable face masks and rubber gloves that the driver is obliged to use when he is outside the vehicle's cab. Used personal protective equipment shall be placed in a polyethylene bag, tied up and placed in an unsorted municipal waste container. It is prohibited to leave the bag with waste in front of the unsorted municipal waste container or in another inappropriate place, since such behaviour contributes to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The hands should be carefully treated with disinfectants immediately after discarding the waste.
- The driver prior to use shall disinfect electronic tools issuing a receipt for the acceptance of goods and signing of CMR documents and wear rubber gloves. The cargo documents shall be stored by the driver in a folder or in another closed organizer in the driver's cab.
- The employer shall provide the driver with disinfectants which the driver uses to disinfect the vehicle controls and seats. The driver's cabin should be cleaned daily, preferably several times. Focus in particular on the door handles, inside and outside, as well as on the steering wheel and dashboard. The driver should disinfect his hands or wash his hands with water and liquid soap when entering or leaving the driver's cabin.
- The driver should inform the employer of any risks to the performance of operation and/or driver's health.
- The employer shall provide the driver with hand disinfectants for the passengers. The driver shall be responsible for disinfecting passengers' hands before boarding the vehicle with a disinfectant placed near the door. Driver provides, as far as possible, seated passengers remotely (approximately 1.5-2m) from the driver's seat. Road transport passengers shall be able to place municipal waste in polyethylene bags which shall be sealed and further placed in a container for unsorted waste. The bag shall not be left at the container or placed in a separate collection container. Hands shall be carefully treated with disinfectants immediately after waste disposal.
- Driver shall find customer instructions for self-entering / self-unloading a load before entering the delivery address.
- The order does not prohibit freight carriers from crossing the external borders of the European Union unless the driver has an acute respiratory infection and is recognized as a contact for infectious disease.
- The driver and passengers at the external border crossing points of Latvia (including ports and airports) or at the internal borders (Latvia – Lithuania and Latvia – Estonia border) at the request of the official of the State Border Guard are obliged to complete and sign a statement regarding compliance with the requirements of the emergency situation. The signed declaration shall be transferred to the State Border Guard.
- The driver has an obligation to inform about his/her state of health, if officials are interspersing at border points. In such a situation, the driver shall comply with the instructions of the official of the State concerned.