

Port Activities Continue at Nantes – Saint Nazaire

In the context of a health crisis on an unprecedented scale, the port professionals are getting organized and ensuring business continuity, so as to secure the supply of goods and flows of freight in Greater Western France and to the French West Indies in strict compliance with the directives in force for the protection of persons.

At the end of last week, Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port put in place a daily monitoring and crisis unit, which makes it possible to adapt on an ongoing basis to a changing context, and implemented its business continuity plan.

In this way, the services ensuring the smooth operation and safety of port calls by vessels (harbour master's office services, inshore piloting, ship's piloting, tugging, bathymetry and dredging, vessel-related services, cargo handling at the terminals, rail and inland waterway connections) are all being delivered for the vessels that are expected. The movements of bridges and locks are guaranteed, as is the monitoring of the water level in the dock basins in Saint Nazaire. Many activities are being maintained by teleworking, with 170 members of Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port's personnel able to utilize the necessary equipment. A close link with the customers and partners of the Port Authority is thereby ensured. Port Authority personnel, notably maintenance personnel, can carry out any corrective maintenance operations and can be called upon to intervene as required. Port terminal access controls are also being carried out with increased vigilance as regards the rules on individual protection and distancing of persons.

The entire Port Community remains mobilized to facilitate cargo throughput while acting in strict compliance with the measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The Port Community is adjusting its organization in line with the evolution of economic activities. In this way, the import and export flows of factories that have interrupted or decreased their activity are going to be adapted progressively. All logistical and industrial sectors of activity are being operated optimally, according to their capacity requirements.

In this difficult period, Nantes – Saint Nazaire Port and all the port professionals are fully committed to serving our country and to ensuring its territorial continuity.