



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH ALERT 2021-05 [14 May 2021]

GOING MASKLESS?



Yesterday, The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance in relation to the wearing of facemasks. In that guidance, the long-awaited general relief from the wearing of facemasks has been extended to individuals who have been fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. Each U.S. State has the executive authority to implement the new guidance, and some have already done so. Others will likely follow.

We provide a link to the new CDC guidance here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

While this relief is a welcome indication that the U.S. vaccination experience appears to be successful thus far, the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) would be less than honest if it were to lead its labor and management constituents to believe that even fully vaccinated individuals will be permitted to go maskless at marine terminals at the present time.

Until the CDC's Order of 01 February 2021 is lifted, the "transportation hubs" that our labor and management constituents report to on a daily basis are workplaces that will continue to require the wearing of facemasks for all individuals (with very few exceptions). We provide a link to the CDC Order here:

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:81e74cf5-2185-417a-82f3-af3ffa5cb54b>

We're very hopeful that the day will soon arrive when we can get back to leading workplace lives that are more normal and less restrictive. The successes that the U.S. has experienced lately have given us cause for optimism.

Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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