

Update

Coronavirus (COVID-19)



Overview of the ÖBB Rail Cargo Group's prevention measures for customers, partners and suppliers

(Status: 13 March 2020 - subject to further legal changes)

We are going through turbulent times. The number of new cases is rising, entry regulations are being tightened and borders are being closed. There are many things we cannot influence, but this does not prevent us from maintaining the responsible role we bear towards Austria and the international transport of goods. We as ÖBB Rail Cargo Group are fully committed to protecting the health of our employees and everyone involved in our activities. At the same time, it is our goal to ensure that our services continue to operate.

What internal measures are we taking?

- The ÖBB Group crisis management team are analysing the situation on a daily basis. The Group coordinator is reviewing all necessary measures and steps to protect our employees and is coordinating them with the authorities. In this way, we are ensuring that all information is collated throughout the Group in line with the crisis team's operational agendas.
- Disinfectants have been provided at the entrances and exits of office buildings and in all sanitary facilities, and their usage is being monitored. These measures are in place to protect our staff and they ensure that we comply with hygiene regulations that have been issued. Additional disinfectants are being ordered on an ongoing basis and are also being distributed at the workplaces of employees who come into contact with customers.
- Together with the ÖBB Rail Cargo Group's occupational health department, we are conducting information sessions on precautionary measures at locations that are critical for operations.
- All employees have been informed via digital channels as well as printed notices about guidelines such as washing their hands regularly and avoiding shaking hands.
- Existing telecommuting options will be extended and will be used to maintain operations in the long term and to reduce the number of staff present on site in order to reduce the amount of human contact at the workplace. This applies mainly to administrative staff. The undisturbed planning of logistical requests also has top priority during teleworking.
- Public appointments, team meetings and meetings with cooperation partners and suppliers have been significantly reduced. Where necessary, these have been replaced by technical solutions and digital alternatives such as telephone conferences.
- For operational personnel such as train drivers, wagon inspectors, technicians, etc., the interplay between shift changeovers and authorised leave of absence is being taken into account for arranging work schedules.
- All outdoor events with more than 500 participants and indoor events with more than 100 participants have been cancelled until further notice.

What operational measures are we taking?

- Freight trains are basically being reloaded at the Italian, the Czech Republic and Slovakia border. No locomotives are crossing the border.
- The cleaning of work equipment, disinfection of locomotives and operationally critical premises has also been augmented.
- Operational procedures are also being determined by the local requirements of the respective authorities.

With all these measures already in place, we are doing our duty to do everything we can to stop the spread of the Corona virus.