

Dear Sirs,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL MEMBERS WITH VESSELS CALLING AT BRAZILIAN PORTS

Please note that the health authority in Brazil, ANVISA, has announced some measures in order to protect the country from "Bird Flu". All vessels which have called at any port in the areas considered as "affected" by the disease during the last 30 days prior to arriving in Brazil will not receive free pratique via radio and will be submitted to a thorough inspection. At this time it is still being discussed whether the inspection will take place while the vessel is still at roads or after berthing.

The countries considered as "affected" by bird flu are the following:

Austria, Germany, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, China, Croatia, Egypt, Slovakia, Slovenia, France, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Japan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Korea, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine and Vietnam.

The following items will be checked and should be informed by the Master prior to arrival/berthing at Brazilian ports:

- if the vessel was supplied with any products of bird origin at these ports;
- date and place of the supply;
- which/type of products;
- quantity;
- if they were already consumed or are being kept in the freezer;
- if these products generated any kind of residues or waste;
- if these products have been incinerated
- if these residues were thrown into the sea or are on board;
- if any crewmember had any symptoms, such as fever, intestinal problems, breathing difficulties, indisposition, etc...

If the health authorities do not find any evidence of the above items on board, the vessel will be cleared and free pratique issued as usual.

Best Regards,

Williams Brothers Brazil