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## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Please find the following updates on the spread of the Coronavirus and how it is impacting the global shipping industry:

- On Saturday afternoon the Australian government decreed that effective immediately only Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate families would be allowed to enter the country on flights from or via China. As a result of this, many flights from China to Australia are being cancelled. QANTAS has announced that they are suspending their services from China to Australia as from 9<sup>th</sup> February. Several flights per day are still operating between China and Australia in the meantime including carriers such as China Eastern (MU) and China Southern (CZ).
- Operations in China, post the extended Chinese New Year holiday, have begun to start up again in some provinces, but the key shipping lane provinces mostly remain on forced extended break until 10<sup>th</sup> February, including those containing the cities of Shanghai, Ningbo, Shenzhen, and Xiamen.
- Air cargo is currently moving from Shenzhen and Shanghai (as well as other origins) with Customs operations now operating for air cargo in China. Flights however are subject to cancellation, even at the last minute. Options are available to move urgent cargo so please contact Tomax on 1300 186 629 and speak to Marc or Chris for any enquiries.
- Sea freight operations have not returned to normal yet. FCL and LCL cargo will not be able to be export cleared until 10<sup>th</sup> February, some transport options are available in the meantime. Cargo that was arranged to be shipped and moved to the terminals prior to the Chinese New Year break is being shipped as vessels and container terminals are still operating including some vessel departing Chinese ports yesterday and today.
- Shipping lines have announced an increase in the number of “blank” or cancelled sailings over the next few weeks as the volume of cargo will be heavily reduced pending factories being allowed to return to work and cargo services slowly returning to operational capacity.
- The Tomax Logistics Hong Kong office staff are back and operating as normal. Our Shanghai office will remain closed until at least 10<sup>th</sup> February in line with provincial government requirements.

More updates will follow over the coming days. If you would like to contact Tomax to discuss the situation and how it may affect you please contact us via email to sales@tomax.com.au or call us on 1300 186 629.