NEWS RELEASE

July 19, 2020, 5:15pm, News Release no. 103
Coronavirus COVID-19

Unalaska, Alaska – An American Seafoods vessel, the American Triumph, arrived in Unalaska’s International Port of Dutch Harbor on Thursday July 16 with 119 persons on board. Seven crew members had reported symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and six of them tested positive shortly after arriving in Unalaska. All crew members have been restricted to either the vessel or their isolation location while in Unalaska.

Testing and screening of the remaining 112 persons on board has been completed by personnel from the Iliuliuk Family & Health Services Clinic, resulting in an additional 79 individuals with positive tests. A total of 85 crew members have tested positive and 34 crew members tested negative. The manner in which the State of Alaska records and reports test results may vary, depending on a variety of factors.

Charter flights are in the process of transporting the 34 crew members with negative tests from Unalaska to Anchorage to begin a period of quarantine and symptom monitoring. The individuals testing positive are receiving further medical screening today as appropriate from IFHS providers. The vessel and the crew members with positive tests will then sail to Seward with American Seafoods medical support personnel on board. Departure from Unalaska is planned for late Sunday evening or early Monday morning, which will put them into Seward midday Wednesday. After arrival in Seward, crew members will be transported directly to their Anchorage isolation location for further care and monitoring.

“Our priority is supporting our crew members and protecting the community. I am deeply grateful for the entire Alaska community for working with us to get our crew the care they need. We especially appreciate the support of the City of Unalaska and the IFHS Clinic” said Mikel Durham, CEO of American Seafoods.

The care for these crew members has been planned and carried out in careful coordination with numerous organizations including American Seafoods Company, Iliuliuk Family & Health Services, the U. S. Coast Guard, State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, City of Unalaska, City of Seward and the Municipality of Anchorage.

“My sincere thanks goes out to all those who worked collaboratively to help ensure the safety of both the crew and our community. There is no better reminder that we truly are all in this together” said Unalaska City Manager Erin Reinders.

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