

## Coronavirus - The Current Challenges in China

Dear Valued Partner,

We are sure that you have been, like all of us at Charles Kendall, closely following the recent outbreak of Coronavirus in China and thence to many secondary countries.

As you will be aware the Government of China has extended the CNY holiday period until at least until 10 February. We have been made aware today that some commercial companies have extended these holidays further until 17th February or have advised the employees to work from home until that date. We expect the next 5-6 days will be crucial in judging whether the spread of the virus is under control and whether the existing quarantine measure have been successful.

Most air carriers have suspended flights to and from China and some shipping is being diverted. Ten of the thirteen border crossing points between China and Hong Kong have been closed. China visa applications for Hong Kong has been suspended and all the casinos in Macau have been closed.

Whilst CKF Hong Kong has been back to work with a full menu of services since 29 January 2020, most of our staff in our six offices in China are currently working from home and providing as much support as is possible. Our China offices are expecting to the return on 10 February and we will monitor the situation daily and follow all Government advisory instructions.

However when China does return to work, CKF expect that there will be a considerable dislocation of resources and manpower as many citizens have not been able to return to their residences after travelling to celebrate CNY. Charles Kendall also expect that there will be a delay in the resumption of international flights and a full container shipping schedule. Vehicle shortages are also an obvious concern. Please be assured that CKF will do all we can to minimize any delays or congestion.

We will continue to provide update of the situation to all of our valued partners and customers on a daily basis and would invite you to speak to your local CKF office about any aspect of this global issue.

We are sure like the rest of Charles Kendall you join in wishing our staff and customers in China a swift and safe resumption of work at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely

The Charles Kendall Freight Team