

DFDS CEO Torben Carlsen speaks - vlog 19

Transcript

Good afternoon, dear colleagues. Friday afternoon in Copenhagen.

From the terrace at the headquarters where the sun is shining.

Yesterday was a big day. We saw Crown again sailing from Copenhagen. Now to Frederikshavn and then on to Oslo. We were greeted in Frederikshavn by the mayor, Kasper Moos was there and there was champagne on board.

The captain was speaking to the press while sailing. A big day and hopefully a turning point in this Covid situation. We can now see Passenger ferries operating again. Tonight, Pearl Seaways will also head out from Copenhagen and then we'll be back in a normal schedule.

More seriously, we had a fire this week in Gothenburg Port Terminal. Twelve to fourteen trailers were completely destroyed by the fire. We're still investigating how this could happen. Good news is that there were no injuries. So back to normal business, we didn't have to cancel departures from Gothenburg but of course it is a scare to see such a dramatic fire in one of our workplaces.

Yesterday was the Day of the Seafarers, something that maybe we don't celebrate that much. But I think this year you really need to give a high five if you run into one of our seafarers, they have kept everything running in these scary times. They've had to take double shifts on board the vessels and stay four weeks instead of two in many locations. And not least, we've had some of our very dedicated colleagues in China for more than three months under very, very difficult situations conducting sea trials for our new vessels from China.

And we now have more than a handful of our colleagues in complete lockdown in a Chinese "prison". They cannot even be together for 14 days, and another handful of

colleagues will have joined them now. So give all these people a thought. They are keeping our company running at a higher cost than the rest of us.

On Monday, everybody at the headquarters in Copenhagen have been called into the office. We will make announcements about adaptations to our organisation, some necessitated by the Covid situation, others are changes that we do in our continuous strive to make sure that DFDS has a strong commercial focus and at the same time an efficient cost base.

It's always tough when dedicated good colleagues are impacted by things that they cannot influence but we will of course try to handle this as professionally as we possibly can and hopefully so that DFDS comes out as strong as we possibly can under the circumstances.

Everybody, please enjoy your weekend, continue to stay safe.

Talk to you next week.