

DFDS CEO Torben Carlsen speaks - vlog 21

Transcript

Dear colleagues, sending from Copenhagen today. Second round of the unfortunate events I announced end of June with layoffs and reductions is impacting Business Unit Channel. Their consultations have started and more than two hundred positions will disappear through this process.

Very unfortunate. Very sad, very unfair. A small piece of good news is that a number of the positions are already not filled. So the number of colleagues actually involved will be less than the two hundred positions.

The summer saw our passenger services return, it has been a pleasant surprise that our customers have trusted us and come back in the midst of covid-19, obviously they've come back in bigger numbers between Norway and Denmark, where the covid outbreaks are less severe, than they have between England and the Continent and vice versa.

But as a trend, it seems that our passenger services are still attractive as soon as people can travel again, which is the positive takeaway from this situation.

We saw in Norway a ferry operator, Hurtigruten, with a severe outbreak among the crew and passengers, which have made them come to a complete halt with some of their services and their cruises in quarantine. We have from the beginning, throughout our system, put a lot of emphasis on safety and health. We continue to do that. But on the back of this situation in Norway, we have re-kicked off our task force headed by Kasper Moos, strongly supported by crewing and the commercial side to make sure that we do everything to keep our colleagues and passengers healthy throughout this so that we can keep operating in a safe way.

I have the opportunity myself on Friday to test our new leg from Frederikshavn to Oslo and look forward to meeting my colleagues on board.

Next week we release our Q2 results. I'll be back together with Karina, our CFO, to talk more about that, both how it went and also how we think the rest of the year could develop.

With that, enjoy the rest of the week and look forward to speaking to you next week.