

## **MOM-BCA ADVISORY FOR BUILT ENVIRONMENT SECTOR TO RETAIN EXISTING WORKERS IN VIEW OF TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED DUE TO COVID-19**

In light of the global development of COVID-19, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce has advised Singaporeans to defer all travel abroad with immediate effect. All travellers entering Singapore after 20 Mar 2020 2359h, will be required to serve a 14-day Stay-Home-Notice (SHN). Many countries have also imposed similar travel restriction measures to prevent the spread of the virus.

2 Under such circumstances, it would be challenging for employers to bring in foreign workers from abroad. The priority should be to retain locals to meet your manpower needs and if you still need foreign workers, you should retain existing ones already in Singapore. If you are planning to release your foreign workers, we strongly urge that you allow them the opportunity to work for other employers who may face manpower shortages. Specifically for the Construction sector, you can do so by tapping on existing mechanisms to temporarily [cross-deploy them to other companies](#), or giving your consent to [change employer](#) and registering them on the [Foreign Construction Worker Directory System](#) (FCWDS). Employers who need additional workers may also use the FCWDS to search for existing construction foreign workers eligible for transfer.

3 We also wish to remind all employers to regularly check for the latest updates on COVID-19 measures at MOM's website ([www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19](http://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19)) and BCA's website ([www.bca.gov.sg/COVID-19](http://www.bca.gov.sg/COVID-19)), and ensure that you discharge your responsibilities towards your employees. Specifically, if you wish to bring foreign workers from abroad into Singapore, please be reminded to apply for entry approval from MOM before allowing them to commence their journey. Please also ensure that they serve 14-day SHN upon entry into Singapore. If you fail to comply with these requirements, the workers' work passes will be revoked, and your work pass privileges will be suspended. Thank you.