

July 9, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-38-2004

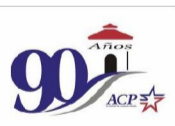
TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Electronic Data Collection System (EDCS) Reminder

1. As announced in Advisory to Shipping No.A-35-2004, mandatory use of the EDCS system was implemented on July 1, 2004. Consequently, information required for transiting is no longer accepted by way of printed forms, e-mails or spreadsheets, unless an official extension, on a case-by-case basis, has been granted.
2. In order to comply, each vessel shall forward all the information required utilizing the following screens available on the EDCS system:
 - a. ETA/Ship Due
 - b. Cargo Declaration
 - c. Passenger List
 - d. Crew List
3. At this time, the above-referenced official time extensions are only approved on a case-by-case basis for customers enrolled in the CIG module. These extensions apply only to vessels that transit under the customer code for which the extension was granted, and only for information detailing general cargo carried in containers. Nevertheless, all bulk and dangerous cargo shall be forwarded using the EDCS system.
4. It is recommended that customers who handle containerized cargo, and have not yet initiated their CIG module accreditation process, proceed with their accreditation, as soon as possible, following the procedure available at www.pancanal.com/eng/maritime/edcs.
5. Vessels that do not comply with Panama Canal regulations may be subject to fines, as well as other control and compliance measures. These measures may include, at the vessel's expense, the assignment of additional resources due to security or operational reasons, as well as a more detailed inspection, which may result in delays or loss of scheduled transit.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director



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