

April 29, 2005

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-11-2005

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Verification on the Number and Size of on-deck Containers

1. Modifications to the *Regulations for the Admeasurement of Vessels to Assess Tolls for Use of the Panama Canal* applicable to vessels with on-deck container carrying capacity will become effective May 1, 2005. As a result of these modifications and their application to vessels with on-deck container carrying capacity, other than full container vessels, the information regarding the actual number and size of containers carried on board is critical for the correct application of toll charges to such vessels. Therefore, it is imperative that the information provided to the ACP regarding the actual number and size of containers carried on or above deck be accurate.

2. As part of routine inspections, ACP boarding officers will review the information provided by the vessel and, if discrepancies concerning the number and/or size of containers on board are detected, a further detailed inspection may be conducted to thoroughly verify the information. Such discrepancies could result in one or more of the following:

- Delay of transit
- A charge to the vessel for the detailed inspection (a tariff to cover this service is currently being processed)
- Assessment of applicable sanctions for violations to provisions of the ACP Regulation on Navigation in Panama Canal Waters

3. The charge for the detailed inspection and/or sanctions will only be applied if discrepancies between the information provided by the vessel regarding the number and size of containers and that resulting from the detailed inspection are confirmed.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director

