

December 29, 2008

**OP'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-34-2008**

**TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators**

**SUBJECT: ACCESS TO VESSEL INFORMATION - ACP ENHANCED VESSEL TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EVTMS)**

As a result of the Panama Canal Authority's (ACP) review of the existing procedures for obtaining access to vessel information through the Enhanced Vessel Traffic Management System (EVTMS), the ACP Administrator issued Directive AD-2008-06 dated December 11, 2008, whereby Directive AD-2006-01 and Directive AD-2007-02 were subrogated, and information contained within the EVTMS is now restricted.

All requests to transit the Panama Canal or to anchor in Canal waters carry implicit authorization for the ACP to disclose information regarding the vessel and its estimated time of arrival (ETA), through the EVTMS, to third parties registered with the ACP.

Access to the EVTMS, with the limitations and restrictions established by the ACP, will be available to:

- Local shipping agencies registered with the ACP;
- Port terminals located within or adjacent to Panama Canal waters;
- Panamanian government entities with maritime or protection responsibilities;
- Local banks recognized and registered with the ACP as guarantors for tolls and marine services.

Access to vessel's arrival information, with the limitations and restrictions established by the ACP, will be available to:

- Established entities providing services to vessels in Panama Canal waters;
- Attorneys and law firms domiciled in the Republic of Panama providing legal services within the realm of maritime transportation and commerce.

Authorization to access our vessel information system will require signing a contract with the ACP wherein the terms and conditions required from the subscriber are defined. This contract will include the established tariff, as well as confidentiality restrictions regarding the use of the vessel information. Non-compliance with the terms and conditions of this contract, to include non-payment of the tariff in a timely manner, may result in the suspension of access to this service.

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Information regarding the documentation required to obtain access to the ACP's vessel information system is available in the enclosures. Requests for access may be submitted electronically to [optc@pancanal.com](mailto:optc@pancanal.com) or delivered to:

Manager, Maritime Traffic and Admeasurement Section  
Transit Operations Division  
Panama Canal Authority  
Building 910, La Boca  
Republic of Panama

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Noris E. Lopez S.

Acting Executive Vice President of Operations

Enclosures (2):

[Requirements - Spanish](#)

[Requirements - English](#)