

March 16, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-13-2004

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – FEBRUARY 2004

1. Statistical Summary:

- a. Transit Pilot Force 280
- b. Pilots in Training 0
- c. Tugs 24
- d. Locomotives 100
- e. Traffic Statistics (Preliminary):

	<u>Average Daily</u>	<u>High Daily</u>	<u>Low Daily</u>
Arrivals	35.5	45	19
Oceangoing Transits*	36.7	41	28
Canal Waters Time (hours)	24.01	29.69	16.82
In-Transit Time (hours)	9.79	11.86	8.34

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Supers</u>	<u>Regulars</u>
Booked Transits	556	319	237

***Note:** For the purpose of this report, the term "oceangoing transits" is equivalent to the number of locomotive transits.

2. Scheduled Locks Outages:

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF LOCKS OUTAGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004						
Dates	No. of Days	Miraflores	Pedro Miguel	Gatun	Daily Transit Capacity	Status
April 21 - 24, 2004	3	Lane Outage			30 - 32	Confirmed
May 31 – June 10, 2004	11			Lane Outage	26 – 28	Tentative
July 5-15, 2004	11		Lane Outage	Lane Outage	26 – 28	Tentative
August 9-19, 2004	11			Lane Outage	26 – 28	Tentative
Sept 13-23, 2004	11			Lane Outage	26 – 28	Tentative
Oct 18-28, 2004	11			Lane Outage	26 – 28	Tentative

Note: Whenever a set of locks requires a major outage of one of its two lanes for dry chamber inspection, miter gate repairs, tow track work or other major maintenance/improvement projects, advantage may be taken of this requirement to perform simultaneous single lane outages for additional maintenance at other locks.

Transit Capacity: The normal capacity of the Panama Canal is 38 vessel transits per day. This capacity is reduced during locks outages, as indicated in the above table. Consequently, vessels may experience delays in transiting. Normally, during these periods, the Panama Canal Vessel Transit Reservation System slots are fully utilized. Two-day lane outages have no significant impact on Canal vessel backlog, therefore are not normally included in this chart.

- 3. See reverse for items of interest to the shipping community.
- 4. This advisory will be canceled for record purposes on March 31, 2004.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Arcelio H. Hartley
Acting Maritime Operations Director

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR THE SHIPPING COMMUNITY

CANAL PERFORMANCE

In February 2004, oceangoing transits totaled 1065, or a daily average of 36.7. Transits by wide-beam vessels (30.48 meters/100 feet in beam and over) totaled 420, or 39.4 percent of all oceangoing transits. The average Canal Waters Time (CWT) was 24.01 hours.

Panama Canal Authority Administrator Receives Outstanding International Alumnus Award from Texas A&M University

Alberto Alemán Zubieta, Administrator of the Panama Canal Authority (ACP), was presented with the 2004 Outstanding International Alumnus Award from Texas A&M University and the Association of Former Students at the Consuls General Luncheon.

This honor reflects Alberto Alemán Zubieta's outstanding professional career, his commitment to his country and the Panama Canal and his leadership in world trade. Alemán Zubieta is the only Administrator to run a profit-making Canal, and has done so by leading the Canal to operate at the safest, most reliable and efficient levels in its 89-year history.

"Texas A&M is the foundation of my professional success. To be honored by my alma mater with such recognition is truly a wonderful feeling and marks a real milestone in my life. I am very grateful," said Administrator Alemán Zubieta.

Traveling to Texas for the award were Alemán Zubieta, his wife Ana Matilde and children Alberto Antonio, Ana Isabel and Rafael Ernesto.

In presenting the 2004 International Alumnus Award, David B. Prior, executive vice president and provost of Texas A&M University said, "One important measure of a university's quality is the quality of its graduates -- the leadership and character demonstrated by the students who leave the classrooms and residence halls to make their way in the world. Texas A&M is pleased to present its 2004 Outstanding International Alumnus Award to Mr. Alemán. Throughout his distinguished career in business and public service, he has demonstrated both a commitment to excellence and a dedication to Texas A&M University."

Created in 1994, the Outstanding International Alumnus Award is jointly sponsored by Texas A&M University and the Association of Former Students and is presented to successful non-U.S. Texas A&M alumni who excelled and achieved prominence in education, science, technology, agriculture, art, business, humanities or government.