

June 1, 2006

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-13-2006

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: 2006 SAFE BOARDING WEEK

The Panama Canal Authority considers proper boarding facilities to be an absolute necessity to ensure the safety of operating personnel, as well as others using these facilities while transiting the Canal. To promote awareness and compliance with Canal requirements by transiting vessels, the Panama Canal Annual "Safe Boarding Week" will be held this year from June 19 through 23. During this period, the ACP will emphasize and encourage safe boarding and debarkation for all vessels arriving at the waterway.

"Safe Boarding Week" activities will involve inspections of boarding facilities by teams representing groups who normally board transiting vessels, such as Admeasurers, Pilots, Deckhands, Transit Vessel Inspectors, Canal Port Captains, Pilots, Chemists and Emergency Response personnel, as well as ship's agents.

Vessels in both Cristobal and Balboa Anchorages will be boarded to inspect their arrangements for embarking and disembarking, utilizing the enclosed inspection checklist. Vessel masters will be provided with the results at the end of the inspection.

Those vessels deserving special recognition for excellence will be presented with plaques that will be forwarded through their local agents. Any vessel with boarding facilities determined to be below acceptable standards will have to correct the deficiencies prior to transit.

This document is cancelled automatically for record purposes on July 31, 2006.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director

[Enclosure](#)