

December 2, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-56-2004

To: All Steamship Agents, Owners and Operators

Subject: Second Reminder of Panama Canal Authority Navigation Regulation Covering Pre-Arrival Notification

This advisory serves as a reminder that Article 30 of the Regulation on Navigation in Panama Canal Waters was modified and has been in effect since July 1, 2003.

Despite a notification and a reminder published in Advisories No. A-11-2003 and A-17-2003, respectively, we are still confronted with difficulties in preparing the daily transit schedules due to lack of or incomplete information with regard to transiting vessels.

Vessels that fail to provide accurate and complete pre-arrival notification, 96 hours prior to arriving at Canal waters, *may not be scheduled* for transit ahead of vessels that have complied with this requirement or that have already been assigned pilots for transit.

The timely submittal of information that could affect transit restrictions or resources, such as cargo declaration, drafts for transit, or transit ready time, is essential, and failure to do so may affect the vessel's transit rate-to-go.

Technical assistance for the Electronic Data Collection System (EDCS) is available to all customers at the telephone (507) 272-2222, if deemed necessary.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Enrique B. Márquez
Acting Maritime Operations Director

