



July 15, 2002

**MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-21-2002**

**TO : ALL STEAMSHIP AGENTS, OWNERS, AND OPERATORS**

**SUBJECT: Advance Notification of Shipments of Fissionable Materials**

The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) requires a 30-day advance notification for vessels that will be transiting the Panama Canal carrying radioactive cargo containing fissile materials, which are classified under IMO Class 7 - Schedule 13.

Therefore, effective immediately, vessels in this category must provide, in addition to the 30-day advance notification, full documentation of applicable certificates and technical details of the cargo in order to allow the Panama Canal Authority the opportunity to verify the compliance of the cargo with the IMDG Code. Those vessels that do not comply with the advance submittal of the documentation will not be approved transit through the Panama Canal or may be subject to delays until such time that the documentation review is completed.

For additional details on the required documentation mentioned above, please contact the ACP chemists at the Pacific Canal Port Captain's Office at telephone number (507) 272-1312/4219 or fax (507) 272-3015.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Jorge L. Quijano  
Maritime Operations Director