

March 21, 2003

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-06-2003 (Rev. No.1)

TO : ALL STEAMSHIP AGENTS, OWNERS, AND OPERATORS

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL TONNAGE CONVENTION (ITC 69) CERTIFICATE

In order to further clarify MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-06-2003 issued earlier, this new revised version is issued whereby modifications and additions are made only to the original third paragraph. The original MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-06-2003 is hereby cancelled.

The revised full text reads as follows:

1. The Panama Canal Authority has noted that, in response to requests made by vessel owners, some Classification Societies are recalculating the gross tonnage of vessels using a different formula than the one adopted by the International Tonnage Convention (ITC 69).
2. We wish to remind the shipping community that, in order for the ACP to accept a vessel's International Tonnage Certificate (ITC 69) as a valid source for the calculation of the Panama Canal-Universal Measurement System (PC/UMS) net tonnage, the gross tonnage of the vessel shall be calculated in accordance with the ITC 69 Convention.
3. If the vessel's ITC 69 Certificate does not meet the accuracy standards required by the ACP, vessels will be re-measured to include the volume of the entire enclosed space (V), expressed in cubic meters, as well as the volume of the maximum capacity of the containers (VMC) that the vessel may carry on or above the upper deck, when applicable. In these cases, an admeasurement service charge will be applied.
4. Therefore, be advised that such new gross tonnage being presented will not be accepted by the ACP for the calculation of the PC/UMS net tonnage and, consequently, much more stringent audits will be performed to the certificates issued by the Classification Societies involved in these changes.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director

