

April 28, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-20-2004

TO : ALL STEAMSHIP AGENTS, OWNERS, AND OPERATORS

SUBJECT: 2004 SAFE BOARDING WEEK

1. The Panama Canal Authority considers proper boarding facilities to be of paramount importance to ensure the safety of operational personnel, as well as others using these facilities in the Canal. To promote awareness and compliance by transiting vessels with Canal requirements, "Safe Boarding Week" will be held June 21 through 25, 2004. During this period, the ACP will emphasize and encourage safe boarding and debarkation arrangements from all vessels arriving at the Canal.
2. Safe Boarding Week will involve teams representing groups who board vessels frequently, such as Canal Port Captains, Pilots, Transit Vessel Inspectors, Chemists, Emergency Response personnel, Admeasurers and Deckhands. Vessels will be boarded and inspected by these teams at both Cristobal & Balboa anchorages using the "Safe Boarding Week" Inspection Checklist available at <http://www.pancanal.com/eng/maritime/forms/4446.pdf>. The results of these inspections will be provided to the masters, and vessels deserving special recognition for excellence will be presented plaques that will be forwarded through their local agents. Any vessels found to have deficient boarding facilities must correct the deficiencies prior to transit.
3. Local agents and/or their representatives who desire to participate may contact the Admeasurement Unit at 272-4567.
4. This document is cancelled for record purposes on June 26, 2004.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director



COPY OF ALL ADVISORIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PANAMA CANAL WEB PAGE AT <http://www.pancanal.com>
FOR ETAS OR DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH OUR OFFICES: REFER TO NOTICE N-3-2004

