

December 29, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-60-2004

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Implementation of PCSOPEP Regulation

For the past few months, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) has made many efforts to provide for a smooth and effective implementation of the Panama Canal Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (PCSOPEP) regulation, which will become effective January 1, 2005. This is a reminder to our customers that all vessels carrying 400 metric tons or more of hydrocarbons, either as fuel or cargo, are required to submit their PCSOPEP plan at least 96 hours prior to transiting through the Panama Canal.

Vessels that are expecting to transit on January 1, 2005 should have already submitted their plans. Non-compliance will be a violation of the ACP Maritime Regulations for the Operation of the Panama Canal and may cause the vessel to be subject to penalties that could include fines, additional charges, and/or delays to transit.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Arcelio H. Hartley
Acting Maritime Operations Director



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