

November 2, 2006

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-32-2006

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Temporary Reduction in the Number of Available Transit Booking Slots due to Locks Maintenance Works

Beginning Tuesday, November 7, from 2000 hours through Saturday, November 18, 2006, at 0600 hours, the centerwall culvert of Gatun Locks will be out of service due to replacement of cylindrical valves and repairs to rising stem valves. This culvert outage will cause lockages to take longer than normal.

Additionally, the tow track bridges over Miter Gates Nos. 115 and 119 Miraflores Locks will be replaced. This will require that lockages in the **WEST** lane of Miraflores Locks be restricted, beginning Tuesday, November 7, from 1200 hours through Friday, November 17, 2006, at 1200 hours.

Due to this maintenance work, and the rules governing the Transit Reservation System (MR's Notice to Shipping No. N-7-2006), a reduction in the number of available booking slots will be in effect commencing at 0001 hours, November 7, 2006 until 2359 hours, November 17, 2006. The available slots will be reduced to thirteen (13) for supers and six (6) for regular vessels. The number of slots per direction and restriction will be limited as follows:

- No more than eight (8) supers may be booked for transit in the southbound direction, and of these, no more than six (6) with "full daylight-hour" restriction. Similarly, no more than seven (7) supers may be booked for transit in the northbound direction, and of these, no more than five (5) with "full daylight-hour" restriction.
- The total number of "full daylight-hour" restricted supers shall not exceed eight (8) vessels per day.
- No more than four (4) regular vessels may be booked for transit in the same direction.
- Of the six slots available for regular vessels, no more than two (2) may be allocated to regular vessels transiting under restrictions.

Applications for reserved transits for November 7, through November 17, 2006, will be received beginning at 0900 hours, Saturday, November 4, 2006.

The booking slot available through the auction process will continue to be offered in addition to the booking slots mentioned above.

This document is cancelled for record purposes on November 30, 2006.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Capt. Arcelio H. Hartley
Acting Maritime Operations Director