

December 10, 2008

**OP'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-33-2008**

**TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators**

**SUBJECT: CULVERT MAINTENANCE AND PANAMA CANAL AUTHORITY TRANSIT RESERVATION SYSTEM**

Beginning Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 2000 hours through Friday, December 19, 2008, at 0400 hours, the east sidewall culvert of Gatun Locks will be out of service for the rehabilitation of three (3) rising stem valves. Although both lanes will remain in service, they will be served by single culverts during filling and spilling operations. Therefore, all lockages at Gatun Locks will consume more time than normal.

As a result, and pursuant to the rules governing the Transit Reservation System [OP's Notice to Shipping No. N-7-2008 (Rev. 1)], **Condition 1.a** will be in effect from **December 15, 2008** through **December 18, 2008**.

The number of slots per direction and restriction will be 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 (6) slots available for regular vessels, no more than two (2) may be allocated to regular vessels transiting under restrictions.

Applications for reserved transits under the above-mentioned condition will be received commencing 0900 hours December 12, 2008. The booking slot available through the Auction Process, as well as the slots available for regular vessels less than 300 feet in length, will continue to be offered during this period.

This document is cancelled for record purposes on December 31, 2008.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Manuel E. Benítez  
Executive Vice President of Operations