



March 4, 2010

OP'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-04-2010

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – FEBRUARY 2010

1. Panama Canal Statistical Summary:

a. Transit Pilot Force	286
b. Pilots in Training	0
c. Tugs	31
d. Locomotives	100

2. Traffic Statistics:

	<u>Average Daily</u>	<u>High Daily</u>	<u>Low Daily</u>
Arrivals	35.86	45	27
Oceangoing Transits	36.07	41	29
Canal Waters Time (hours)	19.09	23.80	15.28
In-Transit Time (hours)	9.07	10.69	7.69

Distribution of Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Average Daily</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' Beam	454	16.21	44.95%
Vessels 91' Beam and Over	556	19.86	55.05%
Total of Oceangoing Transits:	1010	36.07	
Vessels 100' Beam and Over	457	16.32	45.25%
Vessels 900' Length and Over	94	3.36	9.31%

Note: For the purpose of this report, the term "oceangoing transits" is equivalent to the number of locomotive transits.

Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Large Vessels (beam 91' and over)	476*	155* ¹	32.56%
Regular Vessels (beam < 91')	224*	136* ¹	60.71%

*Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

¹ Includes booked transits only

3. The following page provides the scheduled locks maintenance work and other items of interest to the shipping community.

4. This advisory will be canceled for record purposes on March 31, 2010.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Manuel E. Benitez
Executive Vice President of Operations

ONE YEAR SCHEDULE OF LOCKS MAINTENANCE WORK						
Dates	Days	Miraflores	Pedro Miguel	Gatun	Estimated Transit Capacity¹	Status
Sept. 8-17, 2010	10			Centerwall Culvert	29-33	Tentative

¹The normal transit capacity of the Panama Canal is 38-40 vessels each day, depending on vessel mix and other factors. This capacity is reduced during locks maintenance work, as indicated in the above table. Consequently, vessels may experience delays in transiting. Normally, during these periods, the Panama Canal Transit Reservation System slots are fully utilized. Whenever a set of locks requires a major outage of one of its two lanes for dry chamber inspection, miter gate repairs, tow track work or other major maintenance/improvement projects, advantage may be taken of this requirement to perform simultaneous single lane outages for additional maintenance at other locks.

PANAMA CANAL AUTHORITY NAMED MOST TRANSPARENT PANAMANIAN ORGANIZATION

FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, THE ACP RANKS FIRST IN COUNTRY INDEX; ACP ETHICS AND CONDUCT PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

For the second consecutive year, the Panamanian Public Institutions Integrity Index ranked the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) as the most transparent public institution in Panama for 2009. Out of 31 participating organizations, the ACP obtained the highest score, 266 out of 281 points. The ACP was also recognized as the firm with the best ethics and management program for 2009.

The Index, promoted by the Foundation for Citizenship Freedom Development with the sponsorship of the United Nations Democracy Fund, determines institutions' levels of quality, transparency and citizen participation. The Foundation serves as the Panamanian chapter of Transparency International.

Index participants were evaluated through an 88-question survey with answers supported by documented evidence and validated by the Foundation. The questions examined policies and regulations at the institutions, the amount of public information available, and recent comments, complaints and reactions from the public.