

**AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENCY FOR OPERATIONS**

ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-08-2013

April 9, 2013

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Panama Canal Pilotage Regulation

It has come to our attention that a number of masters are failing to comply with instructions issued by ACP pilots and are interfering with the safe navigation of transiting vessels.

The purpose of this Advisory is to remind owners, operators and shipping agents that the Regulation on Navigation in Panama Canal Waters establishes compulsory pilotage in Canal waters. Article 92 of this regulation states that, "*the pilot assigned to a vessel shall have control of the navigation and movement of such a vessel.*"

Failure to comply with the pilot's orders, or performing maneuvers without the pilot's consent, may result in damage to the vessel and/or Canal structures; thus generating unnecessary delays and, on occasions, sanctions to the vessel.

We kindly request owners, operators and shipping agents to communicate this information to vessel masters.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Esteban G. Sáenz
Executive Vice President for Operations