



AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENCY FOR OPERATIONS

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ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-15-2018

May 16, 2018

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Modification to BAPLIE File Requirement for Full Container Vessels

The declaration of cargo by container vessels enables the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) to perform a precise analysis of cargo movements at port terminals and along the different trade routes, as well as provides a means to gauge the value of the service offered to customers. This information determines the tolls basis for this segment of vessels as indicated in the current tariff criteria and must be declared using the BAPLIE file (bay plan/stowage plan for occupied and empty locations) via the Panama Maritime Single Window (VUMPA).

Full container vessels arriving only for transit with cargo and/or empty containers are required to submit a BAPLIE file prior to 0700 hours the day following the transit date. The transit date is the date of the vessel's arrival at the first set of locks. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered a non-compliance with BAPLIE file requirements and consequently, the variable portion of the tolls invoice will be based on full capacity.

In order to validate the total amount of loaded TEUs, the vessel must present to the Panama Canal official inspecting the vessel, a signed Container Summary Form 4510 with information on the containers that the vessel will have on board at the time of initiating its transit through the Panama Canal. In case of differences between the information declared in the Container Summary Form and the vessel's BAPLIE file, the greater Total TEU loaded between the two documents will be used. The revised Container Summary Form can be uploaded from the following link: <http://www.pancanal.com/common/maritime/forms/4510-Rev20171212.xls>

If, prior to transit, the vessel performs cargo operations in ports adjacent to the sea entrances of the Canal (Balboa, Cristobal and Manzanillo Bay), the BAPLIE file generated after cargo operations and a revised Container Summary Form shall be submitted prior to 0700 hours the day following the transit date. In the event that the revised Container Summary Form is not received, the ACP reserves the right to determine the variable portion of the tolls to be invoiced.

In an effort to satisfy customer requirements and provide greater flexibility to the shipping community, BAPLIE file reception rules are modified as follows:

- a. Extensions to the 0700 hour deadline may be requested by the vessel's local agency through the Panama Maritime Single Window (VUMPA).

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- b. If the extension request and the BAPLIE file are received prior to 0830 hours on the day following the transit date, a fee equivalent to one percent of the fixed portion of the Tolls Invoice (Toll for Total TEU Allowed (TTA)) multiplied by the corresponding Toll Tariff will be incurred.
- c. If the extension request and the BAPLIE file are received after 0830 hours, but prior to 1500 hours on the day following the transit date, a fee equivalent to two percent of the Total Tolls invoice will be incurred.

The procedures regarding how to submit the BAPLIE extension request in VUMPA may be obtained through customerservice@pancanal.com.

The Panama Canal Authority has the exclusive right to determine if the information submitted by the vessel through the BAPLIE file and the information declared in the Container Summary Form is accurate, adequate or complete; and the corresponding tolls the vessel shall pay to transit. If the information submitted by the vessel is inaccurate, inadequate, incomplete, or untimely, the variable portion of the tolls shall be the product of multiplying the vessel's total TEU allowance, according to the Regulations for the Admeasurement of Vessels to Assess Tolls for the Use of the Panama Canal, by the corresponding rate according to the applicable category, or the product of multiplying the number of TEUs with cargo aboard while transiting the Canal, by the corresponding rate, whichever is greater.

Full container vessels arriving for local calls only, or arriving for transit in ballast condition (no commercial cargo and/or empty containers and will not perform cargo operation in local ports) are not required to submit BAPLIE files. However, a detailed cargo declaration is still required at least 96 hours prior to the vessel's arrival to Canal waters.

Vessels that fail to comply with these requirements may be subject to additional charges and may suffer unnecessary delays, including the possibility of removal from the transit schedule, loss of booking, and other applicable penalties.

We appreciate your business and trust that these modifications will result in an improved service for your future transits through the Panama Canal.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Guillermo Manfredo
Executive Vice President
for Operations (i)