



AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ
VICE PRESIDENCY FOR TRANSIT BUSINESS

3654 (NTXI)
 V. 1-10-2018

ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-36-2018

November 8, 2018

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – OCTOBER 2018

1. Panama Canal Statistical Summary:

a. Transit Pilot Force	266
b. Pilots in Training	16
c. Tugs	46
d. Locomotives	100

2. Traffic Statistics:

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Arrivals	33.03	43	23
Oceangoing Transits	33.74	39	27
Canal Waters Time (hours)	23.83	36.58	15.42
In-Transit Time (hours)	10.17	12.20	8.30
Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' beam	228	7.35	21.80
Vessels 91' beam to under 107' beam	590	19.03	56.40
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and over)	228	7.35	21.80
Total:	1,046	33.74	100
Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and Over)	248	166	66.94
Large Vessels (91' beam to under 107' beam)	465*	334* ¹	71.83
Regular Vessels (less than 91' beam)	248*	132* ¹	53.23
Regular Vessels (up to 300' in length)	0	0	0
Auctioned booking slots	4	0	0

* Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

¹ Includes booked transits only

3. The following pages provide the scheduled locks maintenance work, and other items of interest to the shipping community.

4. This advisory will be canceled for record purposes on November 30, 2018.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Guillermo Manfredo Jr.
 Acting Vice President
 for Transit Business

OP, November 8, 2018

Subject: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – OCTOBER 2018

SCHEDULE OF LOCKS MAINTENANCE OUTAGES							
Dates	Duration	Miraflores	Pedro Miguel	Gatun	Estimated Capacity[^]	Expected Booking Condition[^]	Status
14-15 November 2018	5 hours per day	East Lane*			32-34	1	Confirmed
4, 5 December 2018	4 hours per day	East Lane*			32-34	1	Tentative
13, 20 December 2018	4 hours per day	West Lane*			32-34	1	Tentative
14, 21 December 2018	5 hours per day	West Lane*			32-34	1	Tentative
26, 27 December 2018	5 hours per day	West Lane*			32-34	1	Tentative

The normal transit capacity of the Panamax locks is 34-36 vessels per day, depending on vessel mix, neopanamax transits, and other factors. This capacity is reduced during locks maintenance work, as indicated in the above table. Consequently, vessels may experience delays in transiting. When the Panama Canal's capacity is expected to be reduced, a corresponding reduction in the number of available reserved transit slots may be ordered by the Canal Authority. 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 to perform simultaneous single lane outages at other locks.

- * In order to perform scheduled maintenance works
- ** In order to perform scheduled dry chamber works
- *** Culvert outage
- ^ Panamax locks

Panama Canal Sets Record Annual Cargo Tonnage in Fiscal Year 2018

The Panama Canal closed its 2018 fiscal year (FY 2018) with a record tonnage of 442.1 million Panama Canal tons (PC/UMS), which represents a 9.5 percent increase from the previous year.

With this tonnage, the Panama Canal surpasses the cargo projections of 429.4 million PC/UMS tons for FY 2018, as well as the 403.8 million PC/UMS tons registered in FY 2017.

"The Panama Canal continues to exceed our expectations, reinforcing every day the importance of the waterway's expansion and its impact on global maritime trade," said Panama Canal Administrator Jorge L. Quijano. "This is the result of the efforts of our committed workforce who made this an extraordinary year."

The increase was driven by the transit of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and natural liquefied gas (LNG) carriers, containerships, chemical tankers and vehicle carriers.

Performance by Segment

The container segment continued to serve as the leading market segment for tonnage through the Canal, accounting for 159 million PC/UMS tons of the total cargo, of which 112.6 million PC/UMS tons transited the Expanded Canal. Tankers, which include liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) carriers, represented the following market segment with 130.3 million PC/UMS tons.

The next leading segments included bulk carriers, 73.7 million PC/UMS tons and vehicle carriers, 49.5 million PC/UMS tons.

Main Users and Routes

In terms of cargo tonnage, the main routes using the Panama Canal in FY 2018 were between Asia and the U.S. East Coast, the West Coast of South America and the U.S. East Coast, the West Coast of South America and Europe, the West Coast of Central America and the U.S. East Coast and intercoastal South America.

The main users during FY 2018 were United States, China, Mexico, Chile and Japan. A total of 62.8 percent of the total cargo transiting the Canal has its origin or destination in the United States.