



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

3654-A (OPXI)  
V. 4-2-2015

**ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-05-2018**

February 9, 2018

**TO** : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators  
**SUBJECT:** Maximum Allowable Draft for Neopanamax Locks

The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) announces that beginning today, February 9, 2018, the new maximum allowable draft for vessels transiting the Neopanamax locks is increased to the maximum draft allowed by the Canal expansion project, which is **15.2 meters (50.0 feet)** Tropical Fresh Water (TFW).

The maximum allowable draft is seasonal and is determined based on actual and projected Gatun Lake levels, which depends on prevailing weather conditions including precipitation within the Canal watershed. As customary, updated maximum allowable drafts will be announced at least four weeks prior to their implementation date in order to provide our customers sufficient time to adjust.

By reaching this maximum allowable draft, the Panama Canal Authority achieves a significant milestone that should serve to considerably benefit our customers by allowing the transport of more cargo.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Nicolas A. Solano B.  
Acting Executive Vice President  
for Operations