

**AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ**  
VICE PRESIDENCY FOR TRANSIT BUSINESS**ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-06-2020**

February 7, 2020

**TO** : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

**SUBJECT:** Additional Clarifications to the Fresh Water Surcharge, the Transit Reservation (Booking) System and the Transit Itinerary Creation Fee

In response to inquiries raised by customers regarding the recent changes announced by the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) in Advisories to Shipping A-2-2020, and A-3-2020, the following additional information is provided:

**Fresh Water Surcharge.**

For vessels transiting as dead tows or as integrated tug & barge combinations (ITB), the Fresh Water Surcharge will be applied to the unit or units that exceed **38.1 meters (125 feet)** in length overall (LOA). If neither unit of the tug and tow exceeds **38.1 meters (125 feet)** LOA individually, but the combined unit exceeds **38.1 meters (125 feet)** LOA (either fully integrated, with the tug pushing in the notch, towing on the hawser, on the hip, or any other arrangement), then the surcharge will be applied to the unit with the greater LOA.

**Payment of Transit Reservation (Booking) System Fees.**

Slots awarded during Booking Periods 1, 1.a, and 2, including the special period for passenger vessels, and that are subsequently voided due to non-compliance with the establishment of the guarantee within the 48 hour required period, will be offered through a special competition in the same manner as those slots that become available due to cancellations.

**Transit Itinerary Creation Fee.**

The handling service fee to create a transit itinerary will only be applied to vessels over 38.1 meters (125 feet) LOA. For dead tows and integrated tug & barge combinations (ITB), the Transit Itinerary Creation Fee will be applied to the units that exceed 38.1 meters (125 feet). If neither unit of the tug and tow exceeds 38.1 meters (125 feet) LOA, the payment of the Transit Itinerary Creation Fee will not be required.

**Gatun Water Level Indicator.**

A tool that provides information for the calculation of the Fresh Water Surcharge, including a 60-day rolling forecast of Gatun Lake levels is available at:

<http://www.pancanal.com/eng/h2o/GatunWaterLevelIndicator.html>

**Estimated costs for tolls and maritime services (Proforma).**

The Panama Maritime Single Window System (VUMPA) has been updated to include the new Fresh Water Surcharge and the Transit Itinerary Creation Fee, which is available under Customer Service, the Estimate Costs for Tolls and Maritime Services (Proforma) section.

Further inquiries shall be directed to [customerrelations@pancanal.com](mailto:customerrelations@pancanal.com).

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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