

June 1, 2004

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-24-2004

TO : All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Changes in Implementation of Automated Data Collection System (ADCS)

1. In response to additional concerns presented by our customers, the following relief measures will continue in effect through June 30, 2004:

- a. All vessels arriving prior to July 1, 2004, should make every effort to use the EDCS access modules (WEB or CIG) to send the required pre-arrival required information; however, the current avenues of communication will continue to be accepted, i.e. facsimile, e-mail, telephone.
 - b. Transit Booking Requests and Transit Booking Cancellations will be accepted either through EDCS WEB or facsimile. Requests received through facsimile will continue to have priority for competition purposes until June 30, 2004.
 - c. The Crew List, Passenger List and detailed Crew List may be submitted to the boarding officer upon the vessel's arrival on the existing printed form.
2. As announced in Advisory to Shipping A-22-2004, the EDCS will be compulsory for all vessels arriving on or after July 1, 2004; therefore, all pre-arrival information included in WEB or XML FORMS must be submitted at least 96 hours prior to the vessel's arrival date. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in delays to transit; however, each situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
3. The requirement for the stowage location has been changed to *optional* for Dangerous or Non-Dangerous Containerized Cargo in the EDCS (WEB & CIG); however, the requirement for the stowage location of the dangerous cargo in bulk remains mandatory.
4. After taking into consideration the fact that some vessels may not have the technology available or may experience technical difficulties, a computer terminal has been installed at Building 910, La Boca, and at Building 1000, Cristobal, to provide our local customers and/or agents with access to the EDCS Web through which the "Ship Due for Small Craft" and other WEB FORMS may be submitted.

We trust that these measures will minimize any difficulty you may encounter as we move towards the full implementation date of July 1, 2004.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Jorge L. Quijano
Maritime Operations Director



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