

September 4, 2006

**MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-26-2006**

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

**SUBJECT: MAJOR LOCKS OUTAGES – TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FY-2007**

1. Locks maintenance and improvement work is essential for the long-term viability of the Panama Canal. Work requiring locks lane outages and/or lockages with restrictions, such as the ongoing tow track replacement at all locks, affects the daily Canal transit capacity, which is of concern to our customers and Canal officials.

2. For the benefit of Canal customers with their planning efforts, an advanced tentative work schedule for November and December 2006, which covers the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2007, is hereby provided:

**November 8 - 16 (8 days):**

The centerwall culvert of Gatun Locks will be out of service, which will require more time for filling and emptying the lock chambers. Concurrently, the tow track over Miter Gates 115 & 119 at Miraflores Locks will be replaced from **November 7 - 17 (10 days)**, which may result in longer than average lockage times on the **WEST** lane.

**December 13 - 15 (60 hours):**

The **EAST** lane at Gatun Locks will be out of service to perform work on Miter Gate 5.

**December 20 - 22 (60 hours):**

The **EAST** lane at Gatun Locks will be out of service to perform work on Miter Gate 6.

4. As customary, confirmation of outage dates will be published as they become firm. All efforts will be made to minimize the impact on transits that could result from the required scheduled maintenance and improvement work mentioned above.

5. The locks outage and maintenance schedule for the entire Fiscal Year 2007 will be published in the near future.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Arcelio H. Hartley  
Acting Maritime Operations Director