



**AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ**  
**VICE PRESIDENCY FOR TRANSIT BUSINESS**

3654 (NTXI)  
 V. 1-10-2018

**ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-02-2019**

January 8, 2019

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

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Canal Operations Summary – DECEMBER 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	32.81	42	20
Oceangoing Transits	32.71	38	22
Canal Waters Time (hours)	21.87	27.92	17.69
In-Transit Time (hours)	10.28	11.67	8.94
Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' beam	230	7.42	22.70
Vessels 91' beam to under 107' beam	538	17.35	53.11
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and over)	245	7.90	24.19
Total:	1,014	32.71	100
Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and Over)	248	194	78.23
Large Vessels (91' beam to under 107' beam)	465*	275* <sup>1</sup>	59.14
Regular Vessels (less than 91' beam)	248*	140* <sup>1</sup>	56.45
Regular Vessels (up to 300' in length)	0	0	0
Auctioned booking slots	0	0	0

\* Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

<sup>1</sup> 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 January 31, 2019.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Esteban G. Sáenz  
 Vice President for  
 Transit Business

OP, January 8, 2019

Subject: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – DECEMBER 2018

<b>SCHEDULE OF LOCKS MAINTENANCE OUTAGES</b>							
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Miraflores</b>	<b>Pedro Miguel</b>	<b>Gatun</b>	<b>Estimated Capacity<sup>^</sup></b>	<b>Expected Booking Condition<sup>^</sup></b>	<b>Status</b>
5, 6 December 2018	4 hours per day	East Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
13 December 2018	4 hours	West Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
14 December 2018	5 hours	West Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
20 December 2018	4 hours	West Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
21 December 2018	5 hours	West Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
27, 28 December 2018	5 hours per day	West Lane*			32-34	1	Completed
13-14 March 2019	4 hours per day		East Lane*		32-34	1	Tentative
26 April 2019	8 hours			West Lane*	32-34	1	Tentative
7-14 May 2019	8 days		East Lane**		22-24	2	Tentative
7-10 May 2019	3.5 days			West Lane*	22-24	2	Tentative
29, 30 May 2019	5 hours per day		East 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
- <sup>^</sup> Panamax locks

## **Panama Canal Welcomes 5,000th Neopanamax Transit**

December 10, 2018 marked the 5,000th Neopanamax vessel through the Panama Canal, reaffirming the value and impact the route has had on global maritime trade.

The COSCO FAITH full container carrier vessel transited travelling southbound from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. The vessel has a 13,345 total TEU allowance (TTA) and measures 366 meters in length and 48.2 meters in beam.

"The steady increase in Neopanamax transits reflects our customer's confidence in the Panama Canal route," said Canal Administrator Jorge L. Quijano. "We reinforce our commitment to continually improve our service to better serve the industry."

The COSCO FAITH is part of Ocean Alliance's Manhattan Bridge-AWE2 service, between Asia and the US East Coast.

Of the 5,000 Neopanamax vessels that have transited to date, 51 percent have been from the container segment. Liquefied petroleum gas vessels constitute another 26 percent, and liquefied natural gas carriers, a relatively new segment to the Panama Canal, make up 10 percent. Dry and liquid bulk carriers, car carriers and cruise ships make up the remaining transits.