



AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ
VICE PRESIDENCY FOR TRANSIT BUSINESS

3654 (NTXI)
 V. 8-1-2019

ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-40-2019

November 8, 2019

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Monthly Canal Operations Summary – OCTOBER 2019

1. Panama Canal Statistical Summary:

a. Transit Pilot Force	261
b. Pilots in Training	32
c. Tugs	46
d. Locomotives	100

2. Traffic Statistics:

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Arrivals	36.06	46	27
Oceangoing Transits	36.68	42	30
Canal Waters Time (hours)	32.95	47.78	23.40
In-Transit Time (hours)	11.85	14.52	9.90
Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' beam	219	7.06	19.26
Vessels 91' beam to under 107' beam	634	20.45	55.76
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and over)	284	9.16	24.98
Total:	1,137	36.68	100
Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and Over)	248	225	90.73
Large Vessels (91' beam to under 107' beam)	460*	432* ¹	93.91
Regular Vessels (less than 91' beam)	246*	155* ¹	63.01
Regular Vessels (up to 300' in length)	2	2	100.00
Auctioned booking slots	22	9	40.91

* Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

¹ 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 November 30, 2019.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Rogelio A. Gordon
 Acting Vice President for Transit Business

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SCHEDULE OF PANAMAX LOCKS MAINTENANCE OUTAGES							
Dates	Duration	Miraflores	Pedro Miguel	Gatun	Estimated Capacity[^]	Expected Booking Condition[^]	Status
November 20, 2019	12 hours	East*			26-28	1.a	Postponed
November 27, 2019	12 hours	East*			26-28	1.a	Postponed
January 15, 2020	4 hours	West*			31-33	1	Tentative
January 16, 2020	5 hours	West*			30-32	1	Tentative
January 22, 2020	4 hours	West*			31-33	1	Tentative
January 23, 2020	5 hours	West*			30-32	1	Tentative
January 28, 2020	12 hours	East*			26-28	1.a	Tentative
January 30, 2020	12 hours	East*			26-28	1.a	Tentative
May 6, 2020	5 hours			East*	30-32	1	Tentative
May 7, 2020	5 hours			East*	30-32	1	Tentative
May 29, 2020	10 hours			West*	27-29	1.a	Tentative
June 15 to 25, 2020	10 days			East**	22-24	2	Tentative
July 9, 2020	5 hours			West*	30-32	1	Tentative
July 10, 2020	5 hours			West*	30-32	1	Tentative
September 16, 2020	5 hours			East*	30-32	1	Tentative
September 18, 2020	5 hours			East*	30-32	1	Tentative
September 24, 2020	10 hours			East*	27-29	1.a	Tentative

The normal transit capacity of the Panamax locks is 32-34 vessels per day and 8-9 vessels in the Neopanamax Locks, depending on vessel mix, transit restrictions 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
- ^ Panamax locks
- ^^ Neopanamax Locks
- + The total number of reserved transit slots to be offered may have to be adjusted in order to guarantee operational efficiency

Panama Canal Welcomes First Transit of 2019-2020 Cruise Season

The Panama Canal on October 3rd announced the transit of Princess Cruises' Island Princess, marking the beginning of what is expected to be a busy cruise season. According to Senior International Trade Specialist, Albano G. Aguilar, the Canal will facilitate approximately 258 transits over the next few months, including a record-breaking number by Neopanamax vessels.

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"We will see about a ten percent increase in cruise ship transits at the Panama Canal this season in comparison to last year, a boost largely driven by Neopanamax vessels," said Aguilar. "We are proud to play a role in Panama's thriving tourism sector and look forward to showing off what our country has to offer to the more than 320,000 passengers visiting us from around the world this season."

The Canal expects 29 transits by Neopanamax cruise ships this season, including at least one by the Norwegian Bliss, which remains the largest cruise ship to pass through the waterway. It will be preceded by its sister ship, the 3,883-passenger Norwegian Joy, which will pass through for the first time later this month.

Ten other vessels will also make their inaugural transits this season, including the smaller, 2,340-passenger Norwegian Dawn, as well as Ponant's Le Dumont D'uville, P&O Ventura Cruise, Carnival Cruise Line's Carnival Glory, Regent Seven Seas Cruise's Seven Seas Splendor, Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours' Scenic Eclipse, Star Clipper's Flying Clipper, Hapag Lloyd's Hanseatic Inspiration and Hanseatic Nature, and Greg Mortimer's Aurora Expedition.

Princess Cruises' Island Princess, which transited northbound October 3rd, originated in Vancouver, Canada, and will continue on its 21-day journey to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It will be followed by other ships from major cruise lines over the course of the year, including Holland America Line, Norwegian Cruise Line, Carnival Cruise Line, and Royal Caribbean Cruises, among others. Smaller cruises, including Windstar's Star Pride and Lindblad Expeditions' National Geographic Quest, are also expected to transit the Canal.

The Panama Canal alone attracts over 900,000 tourists yearly. Its main attractions include the Miraflores and Agua Clara Visitor Centers and Cocoli Pavilion, which boast exhibition halls, ship observation decks and guided tours.