



MANUEL E. BENÍTEZ H.
Deputy Administrator
Panama Canal Authority

Manuel Eduardo Benítez Hawkins is the Deputy Administrator of the Panama Canal Authority, the autonomous agency responsible for the operation and management of the Panama Canal, the leading interoceanic waterway that serves world maritime commerce.

He began his career in the Panama Canal in 1978 as a Precision Instrument Mechanic Apprentice. In 1982, upon completion of the training program, he was appointed Precision Instrument Mechanic for the Engineering and Construction Bureau, Electrical Division.

In 1993, he was promoted to Chief Power Branch of the Electrical Division and later to Chief of the Electrical Division. Mr. Benítez served as Industrial Services Director, (from September 2001 until August 30, 2004), when the Board of Directors selected him as Acting Deputy Administrator.

In March 2007, Mr. Benítez was appointed Executive Vice-President of Operations and was responsible for all ACP maritime operations, security, emergency response, dredging operations, as well as the maintenance of the canal's infrastructures and floating and rolling equipment.

On August 31, 2012, the Board of Directors announced his appointment as Deputy Administrator of the Panama Canal, a position he has held since September 4, 2012

Mr. Benitez holds a degree in electromechanical engineering from the Technological University of Panama. He completed the Executive Development Program at the Cornell University Johnson Graduate School of Management and has complemented his formal academic studies with professional seminars, including a wide range in the maritime field.