



August 10 2007

MR'S ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-19-2007

TO: All Steamship Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Compliance with Panama Canal Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (PCSOPEP) Requirements

Notice to Shipping N-12-2007 reiterates that all vessels approaching Canal waters for transit must submit a Panama Canal Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plan (PCSOPEP) at least 96 hours prior to its arrival. This requirement, which became effective January 1, 2005, is applicable to vessels with fuel and/or oil cargo-carrying capacity of 400 MT or more. Non-compliance with the above constitutes a violation of Chapter IX, Section Four of the Maritime Regulations for the Operation of the Panama Canal, and may subject the vessel to sanctions in accordance with Chapter XI, Offenses, Sanctions and Sanctioning Proceedings of said Regulations.

Effective October 1, 2007, vessels failing to submit a compliant PCSOPEP at least 96 hours prior to arrival at Canal waters will be classified as non-compliant and will no longer be granted a grace period. Under such condition, the vessel will be scheduled as Tier 3 and will be charged accordingly, as well as for additional resources assigned to the vessel due to this non-compliance. In addition, the vessel will only be programmed for transit after the ship owners, operators or shipping agent have paid or provided satisfactory guarantees for the payment of the applicable sanction, which will be set at a minimum of \$2,500.00. Subsequent arrivals to Panama Canal waters under similar non-compliance conditions will generate increased sanctions that may result in denial of transit.

Ship owners, operators, and masters are encouraged to ensure that their vessels comply with the PCSOPEP requirement and other Panama Canal regulations. For further information, please direct your inquiries to pcsopep@pancanal.com or by telephone to (507) 272-4635.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Enrique B. Márquez
Acting Executive Vice President for Operations