AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENCY FOR OPERATIONS



## ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-27-2017

August 8, 2017

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Panama's Cabinet Council Approves Toll Structure Modifications

On August 1, 2017, following the recommendation from the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) Board of Directors, the Cabinet Council of the Republic of Panama officially approved modifications to the Canal toll structure.

The accepted proposal will allow the Canal to remain competitive, while increasing efforts to provide an outstanding service and reliability to the global shipping and maritime community. The adjustments resulted from an in-depth analysis of the current demand, use and efficiency of the Neopanamax locks, and were part of the matters addressed during visits of Panama Canal executives to customers and industry representatives in Europe, Asia and North America.

The new structure modifies the tolls charged to LPG and LNG vessels, which will remain as presented in the original tolls proposal published on June 1, 2017. This decision was made after careful analysis of the impact of the proposed increases in the supply chain and the final user.

For the containership segment, the approved toll structure offers more attractive rates per loaded containers on the return voyage, applicable only to those Neopanamax vessels deployed on the Canal route in the head and back haul legs, and when: (1) the utilization rate of the northbound transit is higher or equal to 70 percent, and (2) the time elapsed between the vessel's northbound transit and the arrival for its southbound transit is not greater than 28 days. In order to promote the use of the services provided by the local maritime hub, any additional days that the vessel requires to perform port-related activities in Panamanian terminals will not count towards the 28-day period.

In addition, "container/breakbulk" vessels that were formerly part of the "others" market segment will be reclassified into the "general cargo" segment, thus resulting in more attractive tariffs for customers in this category.

The approved toll modifications will go into effect on October 1, 2017, at the beginning of the Canal's new fiscal year.

The Panama Canal Authority appreciates your comments and looks forward to continue serving you in the future. The approved toll modifications are available at <a href="http://www.pancanal.com/peajes/">http://www.pancanal.com/peajes/</a>

For more information regarding the toll structure modifications, please write to <u>info-</u><u>mercadeo@pancanal.com</u>.

## **ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Esteban G. Sáenz Executive Vice President for Operations