

Advisory to Shipping No. A-07-2022

February 23, 2022

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators
SUBJECT : Reminder about Additional Bow chocks and SWL marking

As published in Section 8.b (3) of Notice to Shipping No. N-1-2022, the Panama Canal Authority requires that “*Neopanamax* and *Panamax Plus* vessels shall have additional tugboat chocks fitted symmetrically at the bow and stern about 3.0 - 14.0 meters (10 - 46 feet) off centerline, port and starboard sides. In the bow these chocks are to be placed inboard or just above the anchors for safe tug assist operations. Each of these double chocks shall be served by one pair of accompanying heavy bitts with a preferred diameter of 500 mm (20 inches), and each bitt shall be capable of withstanding the stress caused by a SWL of 90 tons (883kN). All other towing chock locations, namely SET2 and SET3, will also require one pair of heavy bitts with each bitt capable of withstanding a SWL of 90 tons (883kN).”

Neopanamax and *Panamax Plus* vessels having the additional tugboat chocks fitted outboard of the anchors are requested to provide drawings of proposed modifications to comply with the above, for review prior to implementation.

Additionally, all vessels must also mark the TOW capacities of the bitts serving towing chocks locations.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Ilya R. Espino de Marotta
Deputy Administrator and Vice President
for Operations