## Panama Canal Authority Vice Presidency for Operations



## **Advisory To Shipping No. A-43-2024**

November 27, 2024

**TO:** All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

**SUBJECT:** Scheduled Maintenance at Gatun Locks and Modifications to the Transit Reservation (Booking)

System.

The East Lane of Gatun Locks will be out of service due to concrete maintenance on the East Southend approach wall from 0001 hours on Thursday, December 12, 2024, until 2359 hours on Friday, December 13, 2024 (48 hours).

The number of slots available to supers and regular vessels will be reduced during this period, in accordance with the rules governing the Transit Reservation (Booking) System. During Booking Period 2, four (4) booking slots will be offered to supers and no booking slots will be offered to regular vessels. No booking slots will be offered during Booking Period 3 for supers and regulars. The total number of slots available to supers and regulars will be 13 and 3 respectively.

Applications for booking transit slots while this condition is in effect will be received at the opening of the 2nd Period tiebreaker competition from November 28 to 29, 2024, for booking dates from December 12 to December 13, 2024. The Just-In Time (JIT) transit slots available for supers and regular vessels transiting without restrictions will remain at one (1) per direction. Previously published rules regarding the Transit Advancement Service, as well as the slots that are carried over from previous periods or become available due to cancelations or other reasons, will still apply during the maintenance period.

As a reference, the following table summarizes the slot distribution per Booking Period for the Panamax and Neopanamax Locks for booking dates from December 12, 2024, to December 13, 2024:

Category	Special Period	Period 1 (90 Days)	Period 1A (30-15 Days)	Period 2 (14-8 Days)	Period 3 (Auction) (7-2 Days)	Total
Neopanamax	1	2	3	3*	1	10
Supers	3	6	N/A	4	0	13
Regulars	2	1	N/A	0	0	3
Total	6	9	3	7	1	26

<sup>\*</sup>Includes the "conditioned" slot

Additionally, during the maintenance period, of the total number of slots available to supers, no more than seven (7) supers may be booked for transit in each direction, and of these, no more than two (2) with daylight restrictions per direction. The combined number of daylight restricted vessels shall not exceed four (4) vessels. Similarly, no more than two (2) regular vessels may be booked for transit per direction, and of these, no more than one (1) may be allocated to vessels transiting with restrictions per direction for a total of one (1) vessel with restriction per transit date.

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Once the maintenance is complete, the 20 slots for supers and the 6 slots for regular vessels will be reinstated for booking dates beginning December 14, 2024.

For inquiries regarding these rules, please contact: operationservices@pancanal.com.

## **ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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