

## Advisory To Shipping No. A-07-2026

March 25, 2026

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

**SUBJECT :** Introduction of Modifications to the Transit Reservation (Booking) System

The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) informs its customers of upcoming enhancements to the Transit Reservation (Booking) System, developed in response to the operational realities faced by our customers. These improvements will minimize deviations during transit execution, enhance certainty in assigned transit dates, and support more effective planning of post-transit logistics. Through greater predictability and coordination, the ACP aims to help customers optimize their operations, improve efficiency, and reduce associated operational costs, while continuing to strengthen the overall quality of service.

These modifications are aligned with the Panama Canal Regulations, which require the necessary information for the provision of ACP services within the applicable and established timeframes. The timely and complete submission of this information plays a key role in supporting accurate processing of transit reservations and contributes to smoother, more predictable Canal operations. By meeting these timeframes, customers help enable improved coordination, reduce operational adjustments, and support a more efficient and reliable transit experience for all parties involved.

Effective April 1, 2026, through July 1, 2026, a trial period will be implemented for booking dates beginning April 5, 2026, up to July 5, 2026. During this period, all vessels must submit the required information by 2359 hours, four (4) days prior to the booking date, Transit in Advance (TIA) date, or inbound harbor movement date.

For vessels awarded a booking slot through an auction, a Transit in Advance (TIA) slot, or a Last Minute Reservation, when the submission deadline for the required information has already passed at the time the slot, TIA, or Last Minute Reservation is allocated, the vessel will be allowed to submit the required information up to two (2) hours after the allocation time.

Vessels changing from Local Call to Transit or requesting a second transit in the opposite direction under the same visit must comply with the deadlines described above. Vessels with an outbound harbor movement must submit the ready time and tentative draft for the movement no later than 0700 hours, two (2) days prior to the outbound harbor movement date.

Port terminals will be required to submit dock assignments no later than 1200 hours, two (2) days prior to the inbound harbor movement date.

The ACP will monitor the timely submission of the required information by customers and port terminals. During the trial period, this process will be used solely for validation and data collection purposes, with no enforcement measures applied.

OP, March 25, 2026

Subject: Introduction of New Services and Modifications to the Transit Reservation (Booking) System

The list of requirements is available in the following link: <https://pancanal.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Lista-de-Requerimientos-para-transito-y-harbor.pdf>

For any further inquiries regarding these rules, please contact: [operationservices@pancanal.com](mailto:operationservices@pancanal.com).

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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