



**NEWS**

**Panama Canal Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plans (PCSOPEP) – Tariff Update**

The Managers in their website article of January of this year informed Members that the Panama Canal Authority (PCA) had indicated that they were building up their own oil response capabilities to provide Oil Spill Removal Organisation (OSRO) resources in the Panama Canal up to Tier II but were examining the possibility of contracting in suitable resources to meet the Tier III requirements.

The PCA has recently published Advisory No. A-50-2004 advising that it will act as the sole OSRO for canal waters. This approach is consistent with the fact that Panama has ratified the 1992 CLC and Fund Conventions. In order to fund this service the PCA has established a tariff for vessels which are required to comply with the new PCSOPEP regulations. The tariff is applicable to each transit of the canal and is separate and distinct from other charges such as the cost of responding to a spill and/or penalties resulting from non-compliance with Panama Canal Regulations.

The new tariff is as follows:-

<b>Type of Vessel</b>	<b>Tariff per transit (double hull vessels)</b>
Vessels with an oil carrying capacity of 400 MT up to 1,000 MT <b>(TIER S)</b>	B/.200.00
Vessels with an oil carrying capacity of more than 1,001 MT up to 7,000 MT <b>(TIER 1)</b>	B/.350.00
Vessels with an oil carrying capacity of more than 7,001 MT up to 15,000 MT <b>(TIER 2)</b>	B/.600.00
Vessels with an oil carrying capacity of more than 15,000 MT <b>(TIER 3)</b>	B/.750.00
Surcharge for vessels carrying oil as cargo and having single side or single bottom	25%
Surcharge for vessels carrying oil as cargo and having single hull	50%

Members are reminded that the PCSOPEP requirements will come into force on 1 January 2005.

Members can obtain further information concerning the implementation of PCSOPEP from the Panama Canal Authority website [pcsopep@pancanal.com](mailto:pcsopep@pancanal.com) or from the Managers.

Yours faithfully  
**Assurance Foreningen Ltd**

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