

LESSONS FROM MARINE ACCIDENTS IN THE PANAMA CANAL

Captain Mario Chong





- ▶ Board Of Inspectors (BI)
- ▶ Formal Administrative Investigation (FAI)
- ▶ Formal Disciplinary Investigation (FDI)

TYPES OF INVESTIGATIONS

- ▶ Responsible for conducting investigations of marine accidents that occur in the Canal operation areas.
- ▶ Investigate facts.
- ▶ Report is submitted to the Canal Administrator.
- ▶ Reports are not to be used as the basis for the application of disciplinary actions to Authority personnel.



BI

- ▶ Conducted internally by Operations and are initiated when the occurrence of maritime accidents/incidents may provide learning opportunities or recommend actions to prevent or reduce the impact of those events in the future.
- ▶ May provide referral to the appropriate authority for subsequent disciplinary inquiries.



FAI

- ▶ Is intended to promote the best interests by enforcement of reasonable standards of efficiency and good conduct and is to be used for the purpose of correcting performance or conduct that deviates from such standards.
- ▶ Shall be preceded by a careful and impartial examination of all available factual data.



FDI

- ▶ Infrastructure
- ▶ Personal Protective Equipment
- ▶ Procedures
- ▶ Requirements



ACTIONS TAKEN AND LESSONS LEARNED

- ▶ Fendering system
- ▶ Range lights and Sector lights
- ▶ Deepening of the water way
- ▶ Widening of the water way



INFRASTRUCTURE

- ▶ Life jackets with leg straps
- ▶ Helmetç
- ▶ PPU (not per se a PPE, but a helpful tool)



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- ▶ Mooring arrangement in the new locks (PIDE project)
- ▶ Boarding procedures (launch operations)
- ▶ Operational restrictions

PROCEDURES



- ▶ Boarding Facilities (trapdoors, ladders, etc)
- ▶ Vessel requirements
- ▶ Transportation requirements for members (launches and vehicles)



REQUIREMENTS