

UNITED STATES-PANAMA BUSINESS COUNCIL (USPA)

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UPDATE #1

July 5, 2016

A HOUSTON AND TEXAS TRADE MISSION TO PANAMA

Enhancing opportunities from the Panama Canal expansion / July 31-August 3, 2016

Dear friend of Texas, the United States and Panama

On June 26 the Panama Canal inaugurated the third sets of locks, culminating an eight years project at a cost of \$5.5 Billion. The expansion will double the capacity of the Canal and allow transit of NeoPanamax vessels, bringing economies of scales and positioning Texas as the Gateway to the Central Region of the United States consisting of fourteen states, 82 million people and twenty of the top one hundred metropolitan areas of the United States.

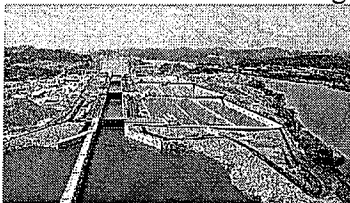
The State of Texas and the Region of Houston, with eleven deep water ports and hosting two with regular container cargo service, Maersk from the Port of Houston and MSC from Port Freeport stands to be a big beneficiary. Thirty-eight percent of the ships that come to the Port of Houston transit the Panama Canal, the Houston Region is the #1 Metropolitan Area in the United States in trade with Panama, and the State of Texas is #1 in international trade. The expansion of the Canal and its potential with Texas is appreciated by the Lt. Governor of Texas Dan Patrick that appointed a Special Commission in the Texas Senate to study the opportunities for the ports of Texas generated by the expansion of the Panama Canal.

To fully explore these opportunities the U.S.-Panama Business Council and a number of other business organizations has organized a Trade Mission to Panama from Sunday, July 31 to Wednesday, August 3. The Trade Mission will be led by the Honorable Dan Patrick, Lt. Governor of Texas and by Ambassador Juan B. Sosa, Consul General of Panama in Houston, Texas. Several public officials of Houston and Texas, and business leaders from Texas and other states will be participating.

The Trade Mission will meet with high officials of the Government of Panama and business leaders, and the agenda will include a visit to the new locks in Monday, August 1, and discussions of the business opportunities generated by the expansion.

Attached please find program, registration and sponsorship opportunities. We encourage you to confirm participation as earliest as possible since there will be limited space for the Trade Mission. Registration will be closed by July 15. Should you have any questions please contact the U.S.-Panama Business Council (USPA) at (713) 426-0554 or Enrique Sosa, President of the U.S.-Panama Business Council, at (917) 426-0554, or contact USPA at e-mail uspanama@msn.com You may also contact Amb. Juan B. Sosa at (713) 408-1767.

We look forward to an exciting and productive Trade Mission and to your participation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ES'.

Enrique Sosa, President

A HOUSTON AND TEXAS TRADE MISSION TO PANAMA
Generating opportunities from the Panama Canal expansion

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JULY 31

AM and PM **TRAVEL TO PANAMA**
(Venue: Hilton Panama, Avenida Balboa & Calle Aquilino de la Guardia)
Evening **WELCOMING RECEPTION**

MONDAY, AUGUST 1

AM **VISIT & PRESENTATION – PANAMA CANAL AND NEW LOCKS**
(Venue: TBA)
Noon **BUSINESS LUNCHEON** (Venue: TBA)
Keynote Speaker: The Honorable Dan Patrick
PM **PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESS FORUM**
Evening **RECEPTION** (Venue: TBA)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

AM **BUSINESS BREAKFAST AND PUBLIC SECTOR FORUM**
Noon **BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS LUNCH**
PM **VISIT TO PANAMA PACIFIC**
Evening **OPEN**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

AM **TEXAS – PANAMA ROUNDTABLE – BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**
PM **RETURN TO HOUSTON**

Note: Final program and venues is in the works and will be formalized in the next few days at which time it will be forwarded.

PANAMA CANAL TRADE MISSION

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

Gold - \$5,000

- Recognition as Gold sponsor in all promotional material, program & website
- Opportunity to make a presentation or deliver short remarks at one of the events
- Assistance with arranging private appointments
- Corporate table at Business luncheon
- Place at the head table at Business Luncheon
- Four registrations including four hotel rooms for three nights
- Transportation and meals to all events in Panama
- Transportation from and to the airport

Silver - \$3,000

- Recognition as silver sponsor in all promotional material, program & website
- Opportunity to make a presentation at one of the events
- Assistance with arranging private appointments
- Four seats at a special table at Business Luncheon
- One place at head table at Business Luncheon
- Two registrations including two hotel rooms for three nights
- Transportation and meals to all events in Panama
- Transportation from and to the airport

Individual Participation

Individual - \$1,900

- Participation to all events
- Hotel room for three nights
- Transportation and meals to all events in Panama and to airport
- Personal assistance
- One registration

Couple - \$2,500

- Same benefits as an individual
- Two registrations
- One room for three nights
- Transportation and meals to all events in Panama and to airport
- Assistance to spouses that want special tours
- The two registrations are for all events