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Panama: Employees At Colon Duty-free Port Threaten Strike

by Deborah Tyroler

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On Nov. 25, the Cristobal Port Workers Union (STPC) threatened to shut down operations in protest of a "defamation campaign" launched by business owner members of the Users Association. Cristobal is the main delivery and loading facility at the Colon duty-free port. The Association launched a publicity campaign last week which claims that bureaucratic red tape and continual theft of merchandise at Cristobal obstruct economic development. The Colon duty-free zone is described as the largest re-export center in the Americas. An estimated US\$7 billion worth of goods were handled in 1991. (Agence France-Presse, 11/25/91)

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