



**ESSENTIAL.
RESILIENT.
UNITED.**





For over a century, the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) has served as the premier champion for the port industry, representing more than 100 ports and 4,500 industry leaders worldwide.

Today, AAPA is more robust and resilient than ever. Our advocacy efforts, resources, and events set the standard for excellence within the maritime industry.

And, we are just getting started.

Table of Contents

AAPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS	4
AAPA TEAM	5
ADVOCACY	6
How Policy is Made	7
Permitting	8
Calling On Capitol Hill	9
MEMBER BENEFITS & RESOURCES	10
Technical and Policy Committees	11
Port Professional Development Programs	12
Foundation for the Seaports of the Americas ..	14
Career Center	16
Industry Data and Information	18
Exclusive Access to Industry Networks	20
EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT	21
Awards	23
Social Media Engagement	25
MEMBERSHIP DUES	26

AAPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

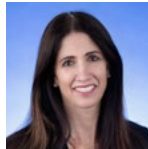


**CHAIR
(2024-2026)**
Chett Chiasson
Greater Lafourche Port
Commission



**VICE-CHAIR
U.S. NORTH ATLANTIC PORTS
(2025-2027)**
Richard Hendrick
Albany Port District
Commission

CYCLE B: 2024 – 2026 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



U.S. SOUTH ATLANTIC PORTS
Hydi Webb
PortMiami



U.S. SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS
Kristine Zortman
Port of Redwood City

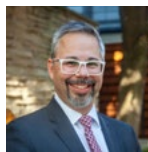


U.S. GULF PORTS
Phyllis Saathoff
Port Freeport



AT-LARGE DIRECTOR
Beth Ann Branch
Port of New Orleans

CYCLE A: 2025 – 2027 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD



U.S. GREAT LAKES PORTS
Erik Varela
Illinois International
Port District



U.S. NORTH PACIFIC PORTS
Julianna Marler
Port of Vancouver USA



AT-LARGE DIRECTOR
Lisa Lefeber
Port of Everett

AAPA TEAM

SENIOR LEADERSHIP



Sang H. Yi
President & CEO



John Bressler
Vice President of Government
Relations



Charissa Meikle
Vice President of Finance &
Administration



Shannon McLeod
Vice President of Member
Services



Jonathan Toomey
Vice President of Business
Development, Events &
Marketing

CORE TEAM



Melodie George
Senior Director of Strategic
Communications & Marketing



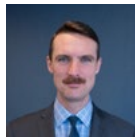
Nicole Felter
Director of Events



Ian Gansler
Director of Government
Relations



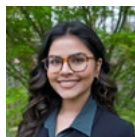
Liz Mancini
Director of Member Services



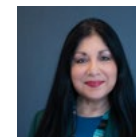
Shawn Balcomb
Director of Public Affairs



Imani Poindexter
Database Manager



Sumi Cross
Business Operations Manager



Julie Barelás
Education and Member
Relations Manager



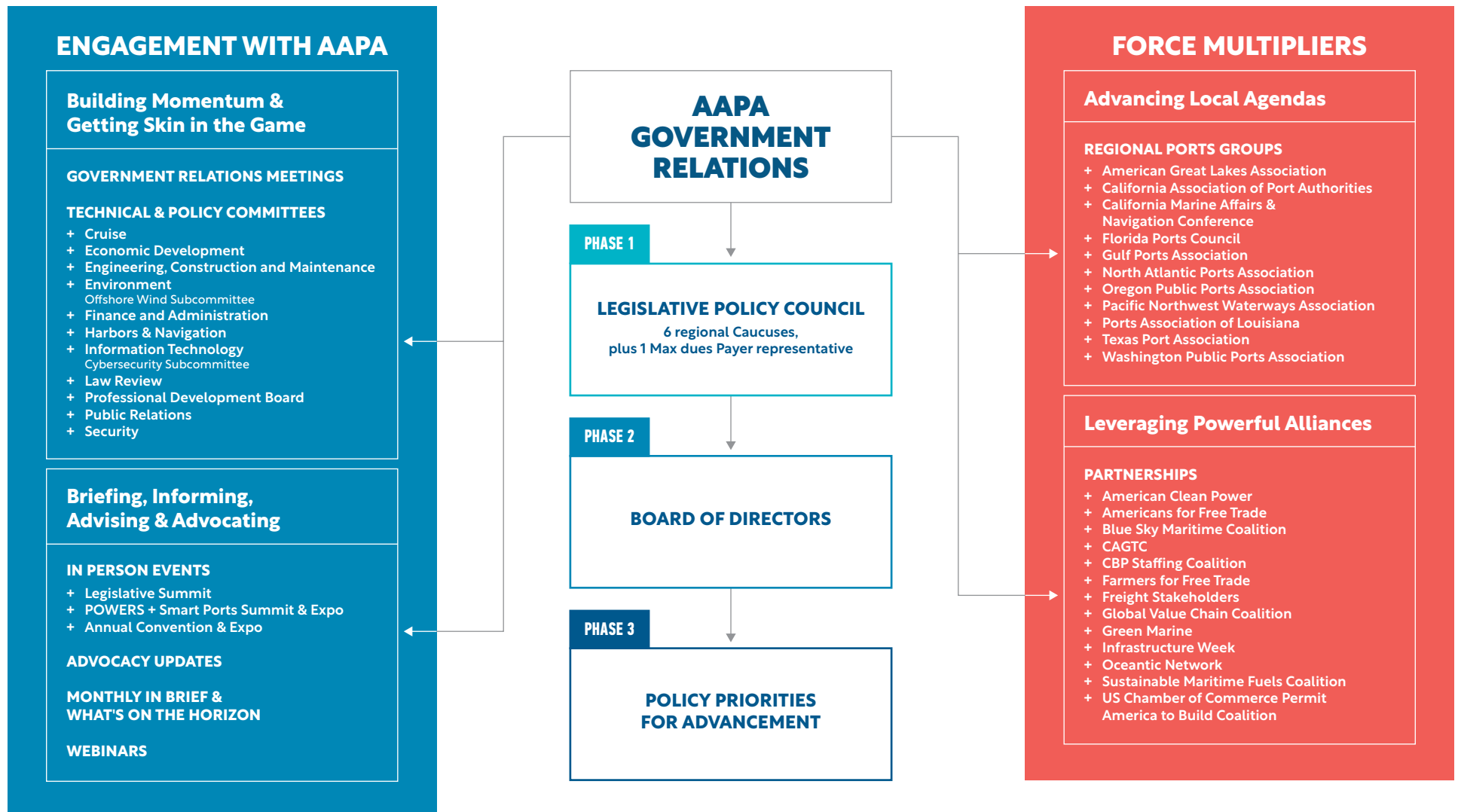
Holden Haley
Government Relations Manager

ADVOCACY

We serve as the leading industry advocate and are relentless in our approach to influence ports' most urgent public policy issues.

- + **Protected port navigation dredging funding** by securing full use of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) and restoring about \$450 million in the Fiscal Year 2026 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) work plan through sustained advocacy to USACE and key Congressional appropriators on Energy and Water Development subcommittees.
- + **Achieved a multi-year pause on the proposed Section 301 shipbuilding fees** to avoid new federal charges on ocean shipping that would have increased costs for ports and carriers.
- + **Secured an exemption for tariffs on foreign ship-to-shore cranes** before the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) issued a new tariff, which helped ports avoid more than \$300 million in unplanned costs.
- + **Ensured that ports are eligible for Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System (Counter-UAS) resources** that help detect and mitigate drone threats to port operations and critical infrastructure.
- + **Successfully unlocked billions of dollars in critical grant funding** from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) after funding was temporarily frozen at the start of the new Administration.
- + **Secured withdrawal of a proposed North Atlantic Right Whale vessel speed restriction rule** from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and supported legislation to pause and limit future speed rules until previously funded pilot programs are implemented.
- + **Secured introduction of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) SPACE Act**, legislation that would dedicate revenue to CBP and help prevent the federal government from shifting customs and security costs onto ports.

How Policy is Made

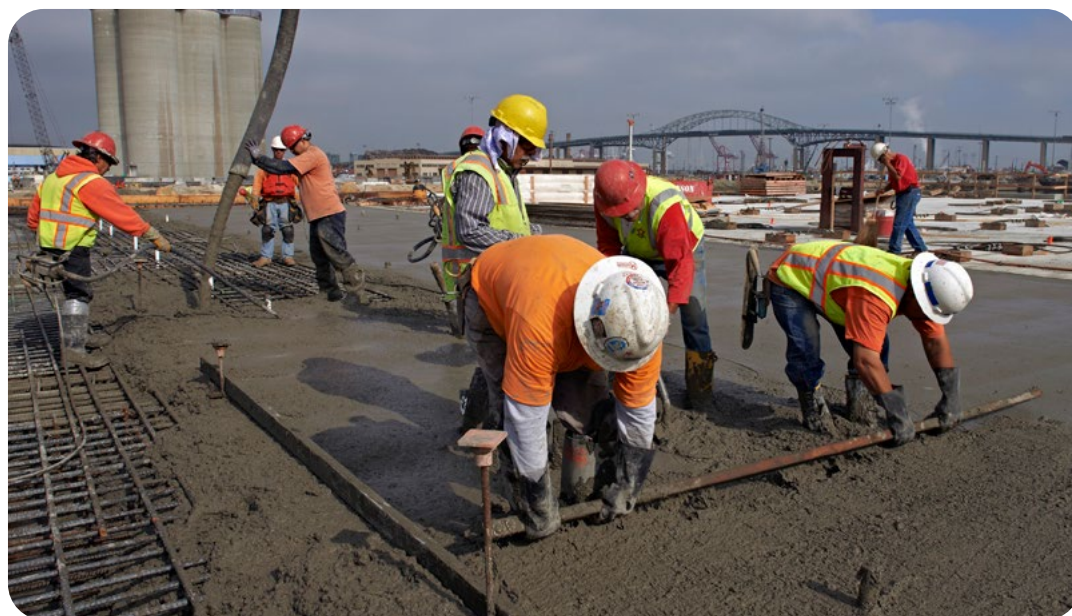


AAPA generates opportunities for ports to drive public policy, maintain relationships with national leaders and shape the future of our industry. Strategy, planning, consensus-building

It's a two-way channel. Get involved in Federal policy formation.

Permitting

AAPA developed the PORT Act to reform federal permitting for port infrastructure projects by providing MARAD greater flexibility in using categorical exclusions.



At the close of 2024, portions of the PORT Act were included in the annual Defense Authorization bill and signed into law.

AAPA, alongside other organizations, also secured the other significant permitting reforms as part of the Fiscal Responsibility Act. The changes implement time limits on permitting studies and require federal agencies to more closely coordinate to reduce duplicative reviews.

Calling On Capitol Hill

AAPA has established and maintains a stellar reputation with Congressional offices.

During Hill Day at AAPA's 2026 Legislative Summit: Revitalizing America's Ports, our organization secured over **83% of meetings requested** with committee and personal office staff.

RECAP

200

attendees

55+

ports represented

45+

speakers

10

hours of
programming

100

port leaders on
Capitol Hill Day

50

meetings with
legislators

MEMBER BENEFITS & RESOURCES

We are a unique, full-service resource that is able to connect, inform, and unify port leaders and maritime professionals across the globe.

MEMBERS

80+

U.S. Ports

20+

International Ports

200+

Industry Solution
Providers (ISPs)

20+

Supply Chain
Partners (SCPs)

Technical and Policy Committees

MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

AAPA offers its members a variety of technical and policy committees to provide cross-segment perspective and shape decisions. The more than 1,500 committee members are able to participate in exclusive industry-specific networking and information-sharing opportunities.



Cruise



Economic Development



**Engineering, Construction,
and Maintenance**



Environment
Offshore Wind Subcommittee



Finance & Administration



Harbors & Navigation



Information Technology
Cybersecurity Subcommittee



Law Review



Public Relations



Security



U.S. Legislative Policy Council
(Membership limited to
US port employees)

Port Professional Development Programs

MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

As the most respected port and supply chain credentials and certifications, AAPA's three professional development pathways anticipate and solve for a major industry future workforce gap as leadership approaches retirement.

LEVEL	EXPERIENCE
 ASSOCIATE	<5 years
<p>The Port Professional Associate (PPA[®]) program provides graduates and young professionals with an annual credential to help them learn the fundamentals of the port industry and receive mentorship from experienced port leaders.</p>	
 MANAGER	5-10+ years
<p>The Port Professional Manager (PPM[®]) program is an unparalleled industry certification designed to shape the future of port leadership and enhance port management professionalism.</p>	
 EXECUTIVE	10+ years
<p>The Port Professional Executive (PPX[®]) provides PPMs or experienced port leaders with an annual credential to foster their transfer of knowledge to the next generation of port leaders.</p>	



The PPM program was the perfect blend of professional development opportunities, networking, and learning from industry experts. This program provided exposure to trends, best practices, and innovative solutions in port management, making it an invaluable experience for anyone in the field.

— **Sadé Chick**

Director of Corporate Affairs | Port of Beaumont

Collaborating with peers from a diverse array of port operations was a great opportunity to think outside of my comfort zone and build a strong network of industry professionals.

— **Jay Windsor**

NIT Intermodal Operations Director | Virginia International Terminals

The PPM program has profoundly enhanced my understanding of seaport operations and management. This experience has not only improved my leadership and analytical abilities but also expanded my professional network, setting a strong foundation for my future aspirations in the port management sector.

— **Nimrod Simeon**

Government Affairs & International Relations | PortMiami



Foundation for the Seaports of the Americas

MISSION & PURPOSE

Established in 2010, the mission of the AAPA Foundation for Seaports of the Americas is:

- + To conduct research and promote education on topics relevant to ports of the Americas;
- + To provide charitable assistance to port employees affected by natural disasters through an Emergency Relief Fund (ERF);
- + To receive and manage funds to carry out the charitable and educational purposes of the Foundation.

VISION

Strengthening Americas' seaports through emergency assistance, workforce advancement, and maritime research

- + Employee Relief Fund – Provide critical support to port workers during times of crisis
- + Workforce Development and Upskilling – Identify future workforce needs and expertise requisite to meet the evolving demands of the industry
- + Industry-Focused Research – Advance research initiatives that enhance port resiliency and foster industry innovation



MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

The Foundation for the Seaports of America's Emergency Relief Fund provides timely assistance to port employees severely impacted by a disruptive event. The Fund is often in the first-wave of support for port employees following a disaster. The Emergency Relief Fund has contributed approximately \$400,000 to support 12 ports in need since 2018.

I can't say enough wonderful things about the team at AAPA and member ports who supported this program through their generous donations. We are all one family in the port world and understand how Mother Nature can uproot all we hold dear within a few minutes, hours, or days. This sort of giving is impactful because it helps to alleviate some of the weight off a person's shoulders when they have so much happening all at once.

— **Thad Angeloz**

Greater Lafourche Port Commission/Port Fourchon

I was able to get more supplies to help my kids sleep a little more comfortably without any power. Most of the time, we are the ones working to make sure our community is taken care of. We don't necessarily have or take the time out to go and apply or look for resources that could help with our family situations. I felt relieved to know that people were willing to help us out.

— **Angela A. Yoshida**

Port Authority of Guam



Career Center

MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

AAPA Career Center is the most trusted and comprehensive career center for the maritime industry.

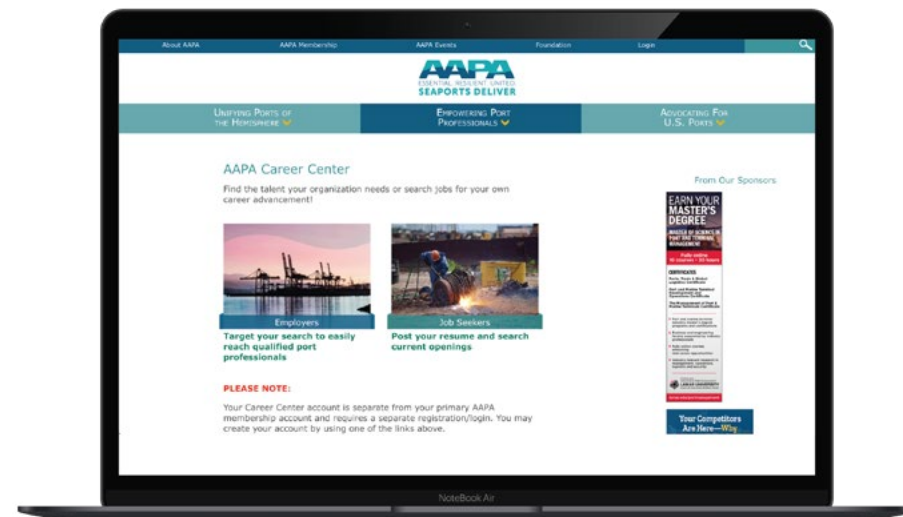
For Employers:

- + Customized Branding Solutions
- + Video Templates for Job Postings
- + Bulk Posting Options

For Job Seekers:

- + Resume Writing
- + Career Coaching
- + Reference Testing

With over 1,000 monthly visitors, each job listing receives 400+ views, it creates maximum exposure for jobs within the industry.





AAPA membership offers **exclusive access** to a comprehensive suite of communications and publications designed to keep members informed, connected, and ahead of emerging industry trends.

Members benefit from privileged access to original research, providing critical insights into industry dynamics, workforce trends, and economic impact. Our proprietary reports are meticulously crafted to equip port professionals with data-driven knowledge essential for strategic decision-making.

Industry Data and Information

MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

Advisory Newsletter

Stay current with weekly industry news, updates, and opportunities delivered straight to your inbox, ensuring you never miss key developments.

Advocacy Updates

Stay informed on critical legislative and regulatory issues that impact the port industry, and receive clear guidance on how you can take action to support AAPA's advocacy efforts.

Annual Salary Survey

Conducted since 1967, this comprehensive benchmarking report provides valuable insights into compensation trends, employment policies, and key characteristics of the public port industry across the U.S. and Canada. It serves as a foundation for attracting top talent and understanding evolving workforce dynamics.

Economic Contribution Report

AAPA's in-depth economic analysis quantifies the impact of the port industry on jobs, GDP, trade, and regional economies, helping members advocate for their ports' economic significance and influence policy decisions.

Port Statistics

Through a partnership with Trade Currents, AAPA provides members with enhanced access to timely, detailed cargo throughput data—including container volumes and cargo tonnage. This initiative delivers valuable insights that help ports benchmark performance and support strategic planning.

Industry Data and Information

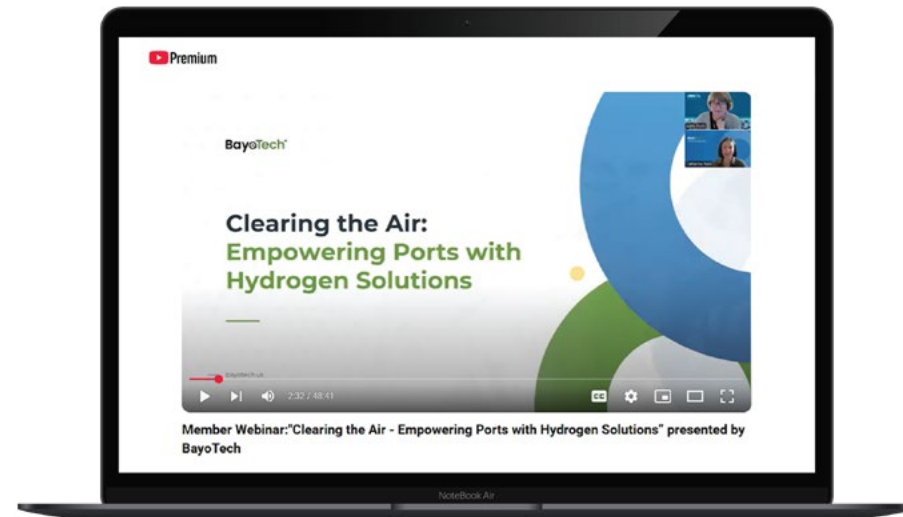
MEMBER BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

Seaports Magazine

Dive deep into the latest port industry developments with this triannual publication, featuring in-depth articles and expert analysis on the most pressing issues shaping the maritime sector.

Content Library

AAPA's digital video library offers members exclusive access to a robust archive of recorded webinars and presentations covering a wide range of topics across the maritime, shipping, and supply chain sectors. The library serves as a valuable resource for professional development, industry insights, and peer learning. Whether exploring port infrastructure trends, environmental initiatives, policy discussions, or operational best practices, members can access this on-demand content anytime, making it easy to stay informed and engaged with the latest developments shaping the industry.



Exclusive Access to Industry Networks

AAPA members gain exclusive access to a global network of industry professionals. This connection enables members to engage in meaningful discussions, share best practices, and collaborate on solutions that shape the future of the industry. Members also benefit from connections with top-tier companies that support the sector, along with direct access to AAPA's shareholders, enhancing opportunities for strategic partnerships and industry influence.

AAPA Seaports of the Americas Member Directory

A comprehensive annual resource connecting you to AAPA's diverse network of ports, terminal operators, and supply chain partners.

AAPA Industry Services Directory

The official buyer's guide for port industry professionals, making it easy to find the right solutions, products, and services for your organization.

EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT

Our innovative convention, seminars, and expositions are where port industry leaders shape the future of infrastructure, the supply chain, and global trade.

AAPA's programs and opportunities provide unmatched value for our members, and our special forums provide port executives and professionals the unique opportunity to discuss and collaborate on the challenges most relevant to their ports.

- + **Legislative Summit**
- + **Port Leadership Summit/Port & Terminal Operations Management Training***
- + **POWERS + Smart Ports Summit & Expo**
- + **Annual Convention & Expo**

**Alternating annually*



2K

Attendees annually

180

Ports represented

24%

Increase in Executive
attendance

50%

Growth in participation
from C-suite leaders

AAPA provides its members with exclusive discounted pricing. This benefit ensures that members can take advantage of cost savings, helping them maximize their investment while gaining valuable insights and networking opportunities within the maritime sector.

+ Discounted event pricing

Members enjoy discounted ticket prices.

+ Discounted sponsorship package

ISP and SCP members enjoy discounted sponsorship package pricing at conferences.

Awards



Industry Recognition Awards

AAPA's Industry Recognition Awards offer members meaningful opportunities to elevate their visibility, showcase their leadership, and receive recognition from peers across the maritime industry. These prestigious awards are not only a reflection of excellence—they're a platform for members to share success stories, drive industry standards, and gain broad exposure across AAPA's communications channels and events. Participation in these award programs positions members as innovators and thought leaders within the port community, providing both institutional recognition and reputational value.

Lighthouse Awards

The Lighthouse Awards are AAPA's signature program for recognizing outstanding member-led programs and projects that set a high standard in the port industry. With award categories aligned to AAPA's Technical Committees—such as environment, infrastructure, technology, finance, and communications—members have the opportunity to be acknowledged for work that advances best practices, fosters innovation, and delivers measurable impact. With separate categories for small and large ports, and an emphasis on projects completed within the past 18 months, the Lighthouse Awards ensure a level playing field and timely relevance. Winners are honored at the AAPA Annual Convention and featured across AAPA's platforms, providing year-round visibility to peers, partners, and stakeholders.

Distinguished Service Award

AAPA's highest honor, this award is presented to an individual—typically within the port or maritime community—whose lifetime contributions have advanced the industry and the mission of AAPA. For member organizations, this is an opportunity to celebrate the legacy of influential leaders, inspire future talent, and reinforce the value of long-term commitment to port excellence. Recognition through this award also reflects positively on the nominating port or partner, further underscoring its role as a leader within the AAPA network.

Awards

Port Person of the Year

This award honors a public figure or external champion—often an elected official—who has made a significant, positive impact on the port industry. For members, this recognition is a way to elevate key allies and spotlight the importance of political and policy support for port priorities. By nominating and recognizing these leaders, members help strengthen the industry’s public profile and foster long-term advocacy relationships.



Social Media Engagement



2.5K
FOLLOWERS



5.6K
FOLLOWERS



10.3K
FOLLOWERS

MEMBERSHIP DUES

GROSS RECEIPTS BRACKET MINIMUM	GROSS RECEIPTS BRACKET MAXIMUM	FLAT DUES AMOUNT
U.S. PORT MEMBER		
Less than \$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	\$5,946
\$2,400,000	\$2,999,999	\$11,892
\$3,000,000	\$5,499,999	\$13,979
\$5,500,000	\$11,999,999	\$15,805
\$12,000,000	\$19,999,999	\$19,143
\$20,000,000	\$31,999,999	\$22,789
\$32,000,000	\$42,499,999	\$27,348
\$42,500,000	\$59,999,999	\$32,209
\$60,000,000	\$74,999,999	\$39,501
\$75,000,000	\$104,999,999	\$50,440
\$105,000,000	\$143,999,999	\$65,033
\$144,000,000	\$173,999,999	\$77,634
\$174,000,000	\$249,999,999	\$90,244
\$250,000,000	\$349,999,999	\$117,283
\$350,000,000	Greater than \$350,000,000	\$148,261

GROSS RECEIPTS BRACKET MINIMUM	GROSS RECEIPTS BRACKET MAXIMUM	FLAT DUES AMOUNT
INDUSTRY SOLUTION PROVIDER (ISP) & SUPPLY CHAIN PARTNER (SCP)		
Less than \$255,000,000	\$255,000,000	\$2,496
\$255,000,000	\$299,999,999	\$3,277
\$300,000,000	\$349,999,999	\$4,056
\$350,000,000	\$399,999,999	\$4,836
\$400,000,000	\$449,999,999	\$5,616
\$450,000,000	\$499,999,999	\$6,397
\$500,000,000	\$549,999,999	\$7,177
\$550,000,000	\$599,999,999	\$7,956
\$600,000,000	\$659,999,999	\$8,737
\$660,000,000	\$729,999,999	\$9,517
\$730,000,000	\$809,999,999	\$10,298
\$810,000,000	\$899,999,999	\$11,075
\$900,000,000	\$999,999,999	\$11,856
\$1,000,000,000	Greater than \$1,000,000,000	\$12,480

OTHER MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES							
INTERNATIONAL PORT (E.G. CANADA, CARIBBEAN, LATIN AMERICA*) <small>*Does not include AAPA LATAM Membership</small>	ACADEMIC			ASSOCIATE	RETIREE	STUDENT	
	4 YEAR	2 YEAR					
\$5,946	\$1,000	\$500		\$250	\$200		\$50



AAPA's advocacy efforts are tailored to promote a level playing field, where each member, regardless of size or market share, can flourish.

We are committed to understanding and addressing your specific needs and concerns and to advocating on the issues that matter most to your business. Your success is our priority.

Join AAPA today.



SCAN TO VISIT
PORTS.ORG



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Washington, D.C. 20024

