



**AMERICAN  
GREAT LAKES PORTS  
ASSOCIATION**

## **2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

August 8-9  
Loews Chicago Hotel

Thursday, August 8

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>Welcome Lunch</b> Wright Ballroom 4+5
1:00 PM - 4:15 PM	<b>Afternoon Conference Session</b> Wright Ballroom 1+2+3
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Steve Fisher, Executive Director - American Great Lakes Ports Association</i> <i>Paul LaMarre, President - American Great Lakes Ports Association</i> <i>Erik Varela, Executive Director - Illinois International Port District</i>
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	<b>Partnership for Success</b> <i>Adam Tindall-Schlicht, Administrator - Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, and Jim Athanasiou, President - St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, on binational cooperation to grow trade and enhance the environment</i>
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Seaway Voyage Information System</b> <i>Jack Meloche, General Manager Marine Information Systems, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, demonstrating the beta version of the region's new VIS system</i>
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>Automation in the Maritime Industry</b> <i>Jean Fahmy, Vice President Digital - Canada Steamship Lines, on the use of data and AI to improve economic and environmental performance</i>
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>Accelerating Decarbonization in the Maritime Industry</b> <i>David Cummins, President, Blue Sky Maritime Coalition, on binational efforts to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in the maritime industry</i>

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Detroit Case Study</b> <i>Dr. Robert Moorcroft, Carbon Reduction Scientist - Tunley Environmental, and Mark Schrupp, Executive Director - Detroit / Wayne County Port Authority, on the Port of Detroit's new decarbonization and air quality improvement plan</i>
4:00 PM - 4:15 PM	<b>Sponsor Spotlight - Foth</b>
4:15 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>Welcome Reception</b> City View Rooftop Terrace
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Dinner Cruise onboard Chicago's Emerald Lady - sponsored by The Great Lakes Towing Company</b> Mercury Cruise Dock - Chicago Riverwalk at Michigan Avenue (rain or shine)
<b>Friday, August 9</b>	
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	<b>Breakfast Buffet</b> Wright Ballroom 4+5
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Morning Conference Session</b> Wright Ballroom 1+2+3
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	<b>Advocacy for the Nation's Ports</b> <i>Cary Davis, President - American Association of Port Authorities, on legislative and regulatory priorities for the nation's ports</i>
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	<b>Port Infrastructure Development - Best Practices to Secure Federal Assistance</b> <i>Panel discussion led by Mr. Bill Paape, Associate Administrator for Ports &amp; Waterways Maritime Administration (MARAD)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Wade Morefield, Infrastructure Development Program Manager, MARAD</i></li> <li>• <i>Bryan Herdliska, Senior Grants Management Specialist, MARAD</i></li> <li>• <i>Joe Cappel, Vice President - Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority</i></li> <li>• <i>Deb Deluca, Executive Director - Duluth Seaway Port Authority</i></li> <li>• <i>Joe Liebau, Senior Strategic Advisor - Foth</i></li> <li>• <i>Bill Hanka, Hanka Advisor</i></li> </ul>
9:30 AM - 9:45 AM	<b>Sponsor Spotlight - shark&amp;minnow</b>
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Coffee Break</b>

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	<p><b>Building Big Infrastructure</b>  <i>Kevin McDaniels, Deputy District Engineer - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Detroit District, on construction progress at the new \$3.2 billion Soo Lock</i></p>
10:45 AM - 11:15 AM	<p><b>Corps of Engineers District Updates</b>  <i>Nick Zager, Chief, Operations Division - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Detroit District</i>  <i>Adam Hamm, Chief of Operations - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Buffalo District</i>  <i>Paul Mazzeno, Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers / Chicago District</i></p>
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	<p><b>PFAS and Ports</b>  <i>Mr. Fred Andes, Partner, Barnes &amp; Thornburg LLP, on regulatory efforts to address PFAS contamination and potential impacts at ports</i></p>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<p><b>Lunch</b>  Wright Ballroom 4+5</p>
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	<p><b>Afternoon Conference Session</b>  Wright Ballroom 1+2+3</p>
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<p><b>Pacesetter Awards</b>  <i>presentation of the Robert J. Lewis Pacesetter Award recognizing ports that have grown commerce over the last year</i></p>
1:30 PM - 1:45 PM	<p><b>Sponsor Spotlight - Burns Harbor</b></p>
1:45 PM - 2:15 PM	<p><b>Great Lakes Shipyards - Opportunities for Growth</b>  <i>Mr. Patrick Kelly, Chief Executive Officer, Fraser Industries LLC, on the future of Great Lakes shipbuliding and ship repair</i></p>
2:15 PM - 3:00 PM	<p><b>Navigation Safety Post Baltimore</b>  <i>panel discussion led by Capt. Paul C. LaMarre III, Director of the Port of Monroe</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Capt. John Boyce, President - St. Lawrence Seaway Pilots Association</i></li> <li>● <i>Capt. Tony Brandano , President - Lakes Pilots Association</i></li> <li>● <i>Capt. Chris Edyvean, President - Western Great Lakes Pilots Association</i></li> <li>● <i>Gregg Thauvette, Executive VP of Operations - The Great Lakes Towing Company</i></li> <li>● <i>Paul Christensen, Vice President of Vessel Operations - Interlake Maritime Services Co.</i></li> <li>● <i>Clay Diamond, Executive Director-General Counsel, American Pilots Association</i></li> </ul>