



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES**     

Contact: Phillip Sanfield  
International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)  
28<sup>th</sup> World Ports Conference  
(310) 732-3568  
[psanfield@portla.org](mailto:psanfield@portla.org)  
[www.iaph2013.org](http://www.iaph2013.org)

## **RECORD NUMBER OF ATTENDEES ARRIVE IN LOS ANGELES FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PORTS AND HARBORS (IAPH) 28<sup>TH</sup> WORLD PORTS CONFERENCE, MAY 6-10**

*More than 200 Ports and Companies From Around the Globe Will Attend Week-Long Biennial Conference*

**LOS ANGELES, Calif. — May 3, 2013 —** The Port of Los Angeles is gearing up to host the largest-ever global gathering of port authorities, convening in downtown Los Angeles next week for the [International Association of Ports and Harbors' \(IAPH\) 28th World Ports Conference](#). The biennial conference will bring together nearly 500 attendees, including executives and officials representing more than 200 ports and businesses throughout the global port and maritime industry.



“Los Angeles will be the stage for ports worldwide to convene, share best practices, advance our industry agenda and learn about the latest trends and issues facing our industry,” said Port of Los Angeles Executive Director and 2011-2013 IAPH President, Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D. “I’m especially pleased that this is the first IAPH conference for almost half of our registered delegates and the [conference program](#) reflects the breadth and depth of IAPH as the voice of the global ports community.”

The week-long event will be a homecoming of sorts for Tokyo-headquartered IAPH, as Los Angeles in 1955 hosted the original meeting of 34 ports from 14 countries that led to the creation of IAPH. Today the organization has nearly 200 member ports from 90 countries. IAPH member ports handle more than 60 percent of the world's sea-borne trade and nearly 80 percent of the world's containerized cargo.

Among the influential delegates are 88 port directors or board presidents from Asia, Europe, Africa, the Mideast, Australia and the Americas. The delegates will be attending sessions and discussing policy positions on issues that range from combatting maritime piracy and strengthening passenger safety protocols, to setting safety regulations for how ports handle liquefied natural gas (LNG) as both a cargo and a fuel for vessels.

Emanating from the Port Economic & Finance Committee established in 2012, one 90-minute session moderated by Goldman Sachs Investment Banking Chairman Kathleen Brown will feature ports from around the world discussing the latest trends in topics that include development of financing sources, port property valuation, alternative project financing, risk management/assessment and bottom-line investment assessment criteria.

Speakers include Richard Phillips, the captain of the hijacked *Maersk Alabama* containership who was taken hostage by Somali pirates in 2009, and Capt. Don Walsh, a renowned Arctic explorer and oceanographer. [Click here for the complete agenda.](#)

The 28<sup>th</sup> World Ports Conference starts Monday with committee meetings, officially opens and runs Tuesday through Thursday, and concludes Friday with a tour of the [Port of Los Angeles](#), the nation's busiest container terminal. All other sessions will be located at the JW Marriott at LA LIVE in downtown Los Angeles. Hundreds of foreign delegates have arrived early and plan to stay after the conference to visit the Los Angeles region.

The International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) is a nonprofit global alliance of roughly 200 ports and 150 maritime companies and institutes representing about 90 countries. The IAPH is dedicated to fostering cooperation among ports and harbors and promoting the vital role they play in creating a peaceful, more prosperous world. Based in Tokyo and recognized as the only voice speaking for ports around the globe, the IAPH has Consultative NGO status from the United Nations and is active in developing international trade and maritime policy. IAPH member ports handle about 80 percent of world container traffic and more than 60 percent of all international maritime trade.