

The International Propeller Club and its Student Ports

About the International Propeller Club:

The Propeller Club was conceived in 1922 when an ever-growing group of maritime professionals met each day informally over lunch to discuss issues of the industry. When the group became too large for casual conversation, speakers began to be invited to address the group. Growth continued, and in January of 1923 the "Propeller Club of the Port of New York" was formed, with thirty-three in attendance choosing the name and scheduling regular meetings. News of the club spread to other port cities, and Propeller Clubs were formed in Boston, New Orleans, and at Yale University. On November 7, 1927, The Propeller Club of the United States as a national and international organization was formed, with individual member clubs designated as "Ports." Ports followed in Tampa, Seattle, Jacksonville, and Miami. The first overseas Propeller Club Port was formed in Hamburg, Germany, in 1932, by Americans engaged in the maritime business there.

The membership comprises a cross-section of the maritime industry throughout the United States and in many cities overseas. The Propeller Club is particularly well equipped to promote, further and support the merchant marine. "Propeller" in the name refers to the propulsion of ships and is symbolic of the driving force required to communicate the need for an adequate, privately-owned merchant marine for both overseas and domestic commerce. Today, the International Propeller Club of the United States is an international business network dedicated to the promotion of the maritime industry, commerce, and global trade. There are more than 80 Ports in maritime locations around the world, including almost 30 in foreign cities.

About Student Ports:

Many of our Propeller Club Ports support a Student Port at nearby maritime academies, colleges, and universities. We currently sponsor Student ports at California Maritime Academy, College of Charleston, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Keiser University, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Maine Maritime Academy, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Miami Dade University, Nantes University Maritime Law School in France, the Northeast Maritime Institute, Old Dominion University, Rockledge High School, State University of New York Maritime Academy, Texas A & M, Texas Southern University, The Citadel, the University of Miami, and the University of North Florida.

What can we do for you?

Organizations like the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers are where you can meet professional contacts within your important, but narrow slice of the marine industry. The Propeller Club is different: it offers you an opportunity to meet and interact with people in a much broader segment of the maritime industry. Student Port members can attend our International Conventions, often with expenses paid by our port sponsors. You can learn from our members about how ports operate, how regulators like the U.S. Coast Guard impact ship design, about logistics, and maritime law. As your career progresses, knowledge of these aspects of the maritime industry will make you a more valuable employee wherever you choose to work.