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SPACE COMMERCE CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

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Space-Age Maritime Solutions Capture the Spotlight *SpaceCom 2016 to Explore Use of Space Assets, Technologies to Address Maritime Challenges on Earth*

HOUSTON – Space and maritime industry leaders will explore new ways to manage security, avoid collision, improve weather forecasting, and perform search and rescue operations using affordable access to space-based assets at the annual [SpaceCom \(Space Commerce Conference and Expo\)](#). The largest commercial space conference in the world, SpaceCom 2016 will be held Nov. 15-17 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

“Working together to leverage cutting-edge, space-based assets, we can develop game-changing applications to address critical maritime issues here on Earth,” said James Causey, executive director of SpaceCom. “Our unique approach at SpaceCom allows attendees to do much more than listen to speakers behind a podium. They get to discuss real-world problems and collaborate on next-generation solutions. By cross-pollinating knowledge and assets, we can devise applications never before imagined.”

Technologies developed for space are already making a dynamic impact on the maritime industry. NASA is applying advanced applications of LIDAR scanning, originally used to map the surface of the Moon, to enhance security, avoid collisions and aid in search and rescue missions. Satellite technology has been used for decades to navigate ships and forecast weather. And, the new era of automation and more sophisticated analytics is increasing quality, cost and access to satellite technology, thereby opening a opportunities such as autonomous vessel operations, bunker fuel efficiency monitoring and more. SpaceCom will showcase these cross-over technologies and demonstrate existing applications that can be used to improve profits, create new product lines and gain market share.

“Ocean-going vessels, robotic platforms, smart buoys, and other human endeavors on and in the ocean have needs similar to deep-space missions, such as operational oversight, reliable communications, remote maintenance and security,” said Michael Jones, President, The Maritime Alliance. “At SpaceCom, participants get to survey the latest and greatest space innovations that are impacting maritime issues. Roundtable discussions will focus on an array of applications. For any maritime professional looking to go to the next level of operational effectiveness, SpaceCom is a must attend conference.”

SpaceCom comes alive via specific Applications Workshops, which is where the vital, cross-industry collaborations take place. At the 2016 event, energy professionals will benefit from workshops such as *Climate: Affecting Every Business*, where industry leaders will emphasize big data and analytics to forecast and measure the impact of weather on ocean navigation.

Other Applications Workshops at SpaceCom 2016 include *Natural Resources: Effective Husbandry*, *Remote Medicine: Quality Care Anywhere and Everywhere*, *Our Oceans: The Vital Resource*, and *Materials: Reshaping our World*.

SpaceCom 2016 will also feature and examine space-derived technologies currently at work in the maritime industry, including:

- Improved automated identification systems
- Examples of autonomous vessel operations and uses
- Current monitoring for bunker fuel efficiency
- Ship, wind and wave navigation
- Routing analysis
- Traffic Control (Vessel Traffic Services)
- Auto Identification System (AIS)
- Fleet tracking
- Oil spill detection and environmental preservation
- Search and rescue operations
- Ocean currents/circulation and severe weather monitoring
- Policing illegal fishing & other illegal activities
- Ideal fishing area identification via surface temperature monitoring
- Satellite communication systems

The three-day event will also feature a conference session with experts from The Maritime Alliance, NavCom Technologies, and Greater Houston Port Bureau. In addition, there will be numerous opportunities for cutting-edge entrepreneurs, business leaders and investors to do business and forge partnerships to gain competitive advantage. A full conference program is available [here](#).

[Registration](#) for this year's event is currently open, and attendees who sign up before Sept. 9 can take advantage of a \$200 savings. [Sponsorships and exhibit booth space](#) are also still available. For more information, visit www.spacecomexpo.com.

About SpaceCom

[SpaceCom](#) (the Space Commerce Conference and Exposition) focuses on the application of space technologies to fuel business innovation across the advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, energy, maritime and medical industries. The event is produced in collaboration with [NASA Johnson Space Center](#), [Center for the Advancement of Science in Space \(CASIS\)](#), [Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau \(GHCVB\)](#), [Houston First Corporation](#) and [National Trade Productions](#). For more information, visit www.spacecomexpo.com.

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MEDIA CONTACT

Melissa Wren
Griffin Communications Group
281-335-0200
Melissa@GriffinCG.com