The Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is pleased to share with you its e-Bulletin CIP Highlights, below.

Message from the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP)
2016 has been, to date, the most active year in the S/CIP. Most importantly, we held the X Meeting of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (CIP) in Montevideo, Uruguay, where the new Executive Board of the CIP (CECIP) and the Chairs of the Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) were elected. In terms of training, a record of 145 scholarships were granted to officials from 31 countries for seminars or courses worth more than US$ 400,000. With regards to capacity building, six (6) conferences and hemispheric events on the maritime sector were held with the participation of more than 350 professionals. The CIP now has 30 Associate Members, 11 of which joined the Committee in 2016.

2017 seems to become an even more active year. We expect to offer at least 145 scholarships for in-class and online courses. The CIP will also hold six (6) hemispheric conferences on priority topics, including safety and security; inland ports and waterways; competitiveness and port logistics; sustainable port management and environmental protection; and public policy, legislation and regulation. At the same time, we will increase collaboration with our Associate Members for seminars and specialized forums in places ranging from Vancouver in Canada to Punta del Este in Uruguay. Meanwhile, we will continue with the four-monthly publication of the CIP Magazine and the preparations for the upcoming 2017 Maritime Award of the Americas.

Everyone at the CIP Secretariat thanks our Members, Associate Members and strategic partners for the trust they put in us to contribute to a more inclusive, sustainable, competitive, and safe port sector in the Americas.

The S/CIP wishes you Happy Holidays and a New Year 2017 full of health, prosperity and love!
Over a highly competitive process, the Jury Committee of the 2016 Maritime Award of the Americas received entries from both the public and private port sector of North, Central, and South America, as well as the Caribbean. In addition to a high point scale, the winning practices showed measurable outcome and most importantly, sustainable impact.

It is with great pleasure that the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) announces the six (6) winners of the 2016 Maritime Award of the Americas from Jamaica, Panama, Peru, United States, and Uruguay, and is proud to honor their leadership and most outstanding commitment to the development of a safe, competitive, inclusive, and sustainable port sector in the Americas in their respective categories:

**Environmental Waste Management in Cruise Lines**

**Environmental Waste Management in Ports**

**Gender Equality Initiatives in Ports**
Port Safety and Security Management

The S/CIP is honored to congratulate the winners for their outstanding initiatives and acknowledges all participants for their most excellent submissions!

Thank you for making the 2016 Maritime Award of the Americas a success!

Feb. 22-24, 2017

Hemispheric Conference on Port Competitiveness and Security: Finding the Right Balance

Organized by the Secretariat of the Inter-American Committee on Ports (S/CIP) of the Organization of American States (OAS) in collaboration with the University of
Miami Center for International Business Education & Research (CIBER), HudsonAnalytix, and the Maritime Administration (MARAD) of the U.S. Department of Transportation and with the financial support of the U.S. Department of State, the Conference will provide an international platform for public-private dialogue on strategic actions that promote efficient logistic operations while tackling relevant security concerns in the region’s port and maritime sectors. The event will also address key aspects of port security in accordance with competitive technologies, operations, and infrastructure. For further information, click here.

Feb. 14-16, 2017

Attracting visitors from a variety of industries, OINA‘s exhibition and conference is a world leading event where industry, academia and government share knowledge and connect with the marine science and ocean technology communities, improving their strategies. Taking place at the San Diego Convention Center on February 14-16, 2017, the event will also provide structured networking opportunities to help suppliers establish relationships on a global scale. To know more about OINA, click here.
SOGET, global *Port Community System* leader, and Thales, a global technology leader for the aerospace, transport, defense and security markets, are combining their expertise to develop innovative systems to secure ports throughout the world. To address the new port infrastructure requirements, SOGET will provide its know-how in terms of intelligent management of information relating to supply chains; and Thales’s expertise in cybersecurity and in securing coastal and port sites. For further information, click [here](#).

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**Empresa Portuaria Arica (EPA) Commemorates its 50th Anniversary**

In a ceremony celebrating fifty years of port operations, EPA expressed its efforts to strengthen port-community relations. The anniversary program included activities such as art contests that featured drawing and literature. In the course of the festivities, EPA presented a time capsule that will open on their centennial. Puerto Arica has positioned itself as one of the main port terminals in the north of Chile, serving as a transit of goods from and to Bolivia, among other important points of the Andean region. For more information, click [here](#).
Interested in becoming an Associate Member of the CIP?
Click here for further information on the benefits of joining, opportunities for collaboration and the formal application procedures or contact the CIP Secretariat.