

SPRING 2022

# PIANC USA NEWSLETTER



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Remembering Edward James Schmeltz

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 'Port Resilience' Webinar on 15 June 2022  
*Visit [pianc.us/events](https://pianc.us/events) for more information*
- PIANC Smart Rivers: 18-21 October 2022, Nanjing, China  
*Learn more at [smartrivers2022.com](https://smartrivers2022.com)*
- PIANC America Conference & BTV: 24-28 April 2023, Fort Lauderdale, FL - Abstract Submission Open  
*Learn more at [piancamerica2023.org](https://piancamerica2023.org)*

## COMMUNITY-SOURCED EXPERTISE

PIANC USA recently hosted its first webinar of 2022. Dr. Burton Suedel and Dr. Victor Magar discussed the beneficial uses of dredged material. The use of sediment as a resource represents a paradigm shift toward sustainable practices that can realize social, economic, engineering, and environmental benefits. Check out the recording on YouTube to learn more!



## WORKING GROUPS SEEKING CANDIDATES

- InCom 242 'Permanent Floating Houses along the Inland Waterway Banks and Infrastructure'
- MarCom 243 'Design, Maintenance and Sustainability of Container Terminal Pavements'
- InCom 237 'Bottlenecks and Best Practices of Transport of Containers on Inland Waterways'
- InCom 241 'Handling Accidents and Calamities in Navigation and Hydraulic Structures'
- InCom 216 Re-Launch of 'Best Practices in Planning Inland Waterways Multimodal Platforms'

Visit [pianc.us/news-and-events/workinggroupvacancies/](https://pianc.us/news-and-events/workinggroupvacancies/) for a list of working group vacancies, and to apply.

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**PORTS '22 CONFERENCE - SEP 18-21 2022, HONOLULU, HAWAII**

**REGISTRATION OPEN**

The PORTS Conference series is internationally recognized as an outstanding opportunity to network with hundreds of professionals who share similar challenges and concerns. Ports '22, co-hosted by COPRI and the US Section of PIANC, will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, from 18-21 September 2022. This informative and immensely successful series of conferences has consistently drawn an international audience of port, harbor, waterway, and marine professionals who come to share their knowledge as well as learn from the experiences of others.



## TOP 5 REASONS TO ATTEND

- 1** Leaders in the Ports industry share lessons learned, port innovations, advancements in technology, and best practices.
- 2** Discussions range from planning to management to design to construction to total life cycle topics.
- 3** Networking with owners, government agencies, and private industry from both the Deepwater and Inland Port communities.
- 4** Topics are suitable for both students and younger members, as well as seasoned professionals.
- 5** Honolulu in the fall is perfect for learning, networking, and fun!

To learn more and register, please visit <https://www.portsconference.org>

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## INTRODUCING MR. JOHN CLARKSON, P.E. - PIANC USA DEPUTY SECRETARY



The US Section of PIANC welcomes John Clarkson to serve as the new Deputy Secretary starting 2 May 2022. Mr. Clarkson has 40 years of design experience in navigation and flood control projects. He has a strong history with PIANC having served in various positions. He also has extensive design experience in planning and layout of locks and dams (L&D), filling and emptying systems, approach walls, gates, and construction techniques (cofferdam or in-the-wet). Mr. Clarkson is an advocate for using composites in heavy civil works projects when there is a material advantage. He is currently leading 35 worldwide navigation experts documenting the best practices in lock design and construction for WG 206 Handbook for Navigation Design.

## THANK YOU HAMNA ZAHEER



Hamna Zaheer served as PIANC USA Deputy Secretary from October 2021 through April 2022. During this time, Hamna proved an invaluable member of the PIANC team by improving PIANC USA communications through the website, newsletters, and email notifications and assisting the PIANC USA Treasurer, Joe Mantey, with registrations, bills payment, and all aspects of the financial and administrative management of the Section. Ms. Zaheer also served as the primary contact between the US Section of PIANC and PIANC Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. In summary, Hamna performed her duties with skill and professionalism, and while her tenure was brief, she has proven a great colleague with whom to work. Good luck and many thanks from the PIANC USA leadership, Board of Commissioners, and members for a job well done.

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## PIANC USA ANNUAL MEETING 2022

The PIANC USA Annual Meeting 2022 was held on 13 April 2022, in Washington, DC. The keynote speakers included Mr. Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, and Mr. Francisco Esteban Lefler, President of PIANC.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR, ANOTHER  
PROLIFIC ANNUAL MEETING.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support!



The meeting also included recognition of contributors to PIANC Working Group products and a panel discussion on a proposed PIANC USA initiative to engage with small and medium-sized ports and harbors. The meeting concluded with updates on six of the PIANC technical groups (i.e., commissions) by the senior US representatives of those bodies. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting in person and virtually. Check out the recording on YouTube to learn more!

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## EDWARD JAMES SCHMELTZ 1949 - 2022

The PIANC family lost one of its dearest members with the passing of Ed Schmeltz on 9 March 2022. His contributions to the civil engineering profession, the global maritime industry, and to PIANC were significant, and he leaves a legacy that we could all be proud of. A native of Chatham, New Jersey, Ed graduated from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), with a BS in Mechanical Engineering, and then earned his master's in civil engineering from Texas A&M, with a specialty in Coastal and Ocean Engineering.



Ed contributed his expertise on a global stage, with major projects in 21 states, 37 countries and 6 continents. He worked on US Navy shipyard projects at Kings Bay (GA), San Diego (CA), and Pearl Harbor (HI), and international projects in Qatar and Panama, to name just a few. He found time to serve our profession, garnering the prestigious OPAL Award in Design from ASCE, and was a Founding Member of the Coastal, Oceans, Ports and Rivers Institute (COPRI).

Ed joined the PIANC USA Board of commissioners in 2013, serving until 2021. For PIANC International, he served as Vice President, Americas, and Co-Chair of the Coordination Commission, bringing his talents to a global stage. PIANC is a stronger organization today because of Ed's selfless and meaningful contributions.

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