

MARCH 2024

PIANC USA NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S INSIDE



Click each section below to learn more!

Save the Date! PIANC's Smart Rivers Conference Comes to the US 

2024 Webinar Series Recap & What's to Come!

New PIANC USA Commissioners | Ready to Impact the Future

Commissioners Calvin Creech & Matt Martinez | Representing PIANC Globally

PIANC Presentation on Brazilian Navigation Pilots

RECENT TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

PIANC is renowned for publishing technical reports that provide guidance on how we operate in the world of waterborne transportation. These reports are available for FREE for PIANC USA members and for purchase for non-members.

- [InCom WG216](#) - Best Practices in Planning and Management of Multimodal Logistics Platforms along Inland Waterways
- [InCom WG241](#) - Crisis Management of Accidents in Navigation Hydraulic Structures

2024 DE PAEPE-WILLEMS AWARD



Congratulations to PIANC USA member Brian Shaw of Moffatt & Nichol for being selected as the third-prize winner of the 2024 PIANC De Paepe-Willems Award for his paper, "Limit-Equilibrium Analysis of Tandem Street Pile Structures"! Check back on [PIANC USA's website](#) to read Mr. Shaw's full paper soon.

UPCOMING PIANC EVENTS

- [35th PIANC World Congress](#), Cape Town, South Africa 29 April - 3 May 2024
- [PIANC USA Smart Rivers Conference](#), Memphis, Tennessee, USA , 8-12 September 2025

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SMART RIVERS 2025

CELEBRATING THE WORLD'S NAVIGABLE RIVERS

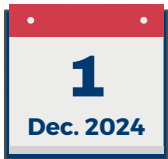


Smart Rivers 2025 is a premier international technical conference that attracts the top professionals in all aspects of inland and river transportation. Mark your calendar and join us to discuss and learn side-by-side with private sector, government, and academic leaders that are transforming the conversations and building a sustainable future in international river transportation. Grow your network and your skills as you participate in technical sessions, technical tours, short courses and special network events. The conference's multi-lensed and transdisciplinary approach will capitalize on today's opportunities and prepare participants for tomorrow's challenges. Learn more at www.smartrivers2025.com!

KEY DATES



PRESENT:
Call for Abstracts Opens



ATTEND:
Early Registration Opens



CELEBRATE:
Smart Rivers Begins!

SHOWCASE YOUR ORGANIZATION

Smart Rivers 2025 sponsors will receive widespread recognition and acknowledgement of their support throughout the conference, offering significant value by boosting their exposure to our target audience of industry leaders, decision-makers, and practitioners. Tiered sponsorship packages ensure the optimal fit is waiting for you!

Start exploring Smart Rivers 2025 sponsorship and exhibition opportunities on our website today:
www.smartrivers2025.com/sponsor



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THE 2024 WEBINAR SERIES KICKS OFF!

On Wednesday, January 17th, presenters Kenneth Willems, Matt Trowbridge, and John Lally gave an hour-long webinar presentation on Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) in Infrastructure Projects to nearly 200 attendees, ranging in experience from contractors to consultants. They covered practical ECI guidance that can be found in PIANC's latest [report](#) on this topic, as well as hallmarks of an effective implementation and the many benefits ECI offers to not just individual projects, but the industry as a whole.

Topics Covered:

- Background: History and Context
- ECI Benefits, Barriers, Feasibility, and more!
- Guidance on ECI Implementation
- Framework, Requirements, and Execution of ECI
- Past and Modern-Day Case Studies

Thank you to our presenters and engaged audience members for helping us kick off 2024 in style!

STAY INFORMED!

More webinars are coming soon! Sign up [here](#) to receive updates, and follow



PIANC USA on LinkedIn for updates on everything from PIANC Young Professionals to Working Group updates to leadership vacancies and more!



Kenneth Willems,
MSc.



John Lally, PE



Matt Trowbridge,
PE, SE, PEng



NEW PIANC USA LEADERSHIP

The United States National Commission constitutes the governing body of PIANC USA, which is administered under the auspices of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



PIANC Commissioner
Mark McAndrews

Mr. McAndrews, while now retired, served as the Port Director in Pascagoula, Mississippi from March 2001 to June 2023. His maritime career spans over 40 years of service involving both public and private sector experience and specializing in stevedoring/maritime terminals, marine operations, and public port administration. To learn more about Mr. McAndrews, visit his [full profile](#).



YP-Com Delegate
Nick Stefani

Mr. Stefani graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree from the Geological Engineering Program from the University of Wisconsin - Madison in 2014 and 2016, respectively. His expertise is in shoreline protection and stabilization, eroding bluff stability, and marinas. He brings with him years of experience with PIANC and as a Coastal and Geotechnical Engineer for Edgewater Resources, LLC. To learn more about Mr. Stefani, visit his [full profile](#).

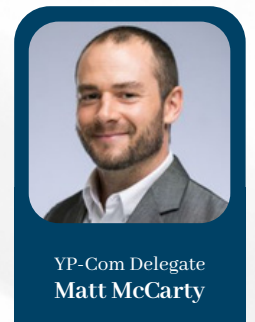
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



PIANC Commissioner
James Marino

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Mr. James Marino for his role as a Commissioner of the U.S. National Section, and Mr. Matt McCarty for his role as the Principal Delegate to the Young Professionals Commission. Mr. Marino and Mr. McCarty's dedication and influence within PIANC and beyond have made their time as PIANC representatives imminently valuable.

Thank you!



YP-Com Delegate
Matt McCarty

STEADY HANDS AT THE HELM

While we are grateful to our departing leaders and excited to onboard Mr. McAndrews and Mr. Stefani, many PIANC USA leaders and Commissioners remain in the middle of their tenure. Read on to learn more about two such leaders, Dr. Calvin Creech and Mr. Matt Martinez, and their journey to leadership within PIANC.



LEADERSHIP PROFILE

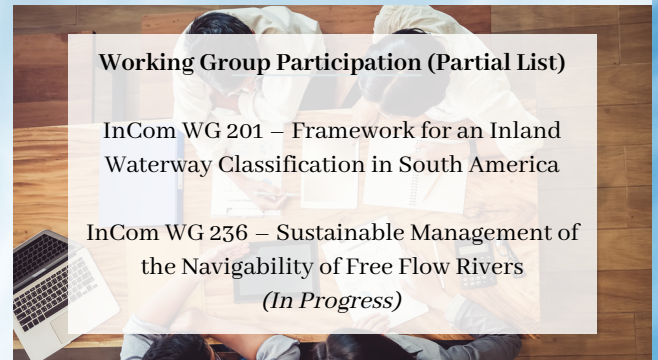
CALVIN CREECH
PIANC VICE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAS
SR. PROGRAM OFFICER, MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP.



As you probably know, PIANC USA is the U.S. section of a larger global organization, PIANC (also called PIANC HQ or PIANC International). Our connection to this parent organization allows for many of the benefits that PIANC USA members enjoy, from participation in international Working Groups to free access to PIANC’s library of technical reports. Some members, however, take their involvement in PIANC’s international network to a new level. Dr. Calvin Creech is one of those members.

Dr. Creech first joined PIANC USA “to actively contribute to the advancement of waterborne transport infrastructure guidance,” and doing so has helped propel his career forward. Presenting his work at PIANC’s global “prestigious events ... have not only enhanced my visibility within the industry globally, but also facilitated valuable connections with colleagues, fostering continuous learning and professional growth.” Eventually, Dr. Creech organized one of those prestigious events himself: the PIANC America 2023 Conference.

The PIANC America Conference provided a platform for industry experts to come together, exchange ideas, and discuss key challenges and opportunities in inland waterways, ports, recreational harbors, coastal resilience and environmental projects. “The conference's success stands as a testament to the collaborative spirit and dedication within the PIANC community, and I was proud to see the excitement of the participants in this conference after all of the hard work that was spent on organizing this event.”



Working Group Participation (Partial List)

InCom WG 201 – Framework for an Inland Waterway Classification in South America

InCom WG 236 – Sustainable Management of the Navigability of Free Flow Rivers
(In Progress)

Beyond being an active contributor to PIANC Working Groups and events, Dr. Creech shares back his knowledge with the PIANC community by serving as PIANC International Vice President of the Americas. We couldn’t imagine a better role for him to leverage his interest and expertise in international waterway development, deep-seated relationships with national leaders and PIANC sections, and dedication to industry growth and innovation – each of which was strengthened over the course of his career with PIANC USA. Appointed to this role just last year, we can’t wait to see what Dr. Creech will achieve with it!

READ MORE ABOUT DR. CREECH AND HIS WORK REPRESENTING PIANC THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS ON PAGE 7



LEADERSHIP PROFILE

MATT MARTINEZ
PIANC USA COMMISSIONER
VICE PRESIDENT, MOFFATT & NICHOL



You may not find a better member-to-leader story than that of Matt Martinez. For years of his decades-long career in the marine engineering business, Matt referenced PIANC reports, attended PIANC events, and “had grown to recognize PIANC as the technically-based international authority on waterfront engineering.” Mr. Martinez stepped into his current role as PIANC USA Commissioner both to expand the international basis of his practice, and to give back to PIANC – an organization from which he had been the beneficiary of so much technical expertise.

While leveraging the benefits of PIANC membership was the first step on his path toward becoming a Commissioner, presenting at PIANC conferences may have been the most critical one. Making technical presentations offered Mr. Martinez “exposure ... to a wider, international-oriented audience.” And the more he interacted with PIANC, the more opportunities he saw for knowledge-sharing and career growth: as a leader in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), “my duties routinely required me to interface with counterparts within PIANC U.S. These relationships gave me an expanded awareness that there was so much more to the engineering and construction world than what I can see from my San Diego, California horizon.”

All of this culminated in Mr. Martinez’s appointment as PIANC USA Commissioner in 2022. And when asked for highlights from his time with PIANC USA, Mr. Martinez did not hesitate to say: personal relationships.

“I have gotten to know a wide range of professionals that practice outside my specific area of expertise. These introductions cannot help but expand a person’s thinking and understanding of all the various aspects of professional practice that must coalesce to accomplish the important work that we all undertake.”

We couldn’t have said it better ourselves. Want to grow your own network of international colleagues, collaborators, and idea-exchangers? Follow Matt’s footsteps by joining PIANC USA, contributing to a Working Group, or presenting at an upcoming event.

Among his many contributions to PIANC’s community, Mr. Martinez is particularly proud of his involvement with PIANC America 2023:

“I had an opportunity to moderate technical sessions, man Corporate and PIANC booths, and monitor the interactions of the attendees. Many new personal relationships crossing international borders were forged.”

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PIANC PRESENTATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON BRAZILIAN NAVIGATION PILOTS

THE PIANC FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVING WATERBORNE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

On 6 December 2023, serving in his role as PIANC Vice-President of the Americas, Dr. Calvin Creech had the privilege of presenting at the International Seminar of Brazilian Pilots in Brasilia, Brazil – promoting the value of PIANC together with newly established PIANC Brazil Section. The presentation was entitled “The PIANC Framework for Improving Waterborne Transport Infrastructure.”

The event was hosted by the Praticagem do Brasil, a PIANC member and long-standing institution representing pilotage entities. Part of Praticagem do Brasil’s 45th National Pilotage Meeting, the event focused on international instruments for responding to accidents involving large ships, such as the International Convention on Civil Liability for Damage Caused by Oil Pollution (CLC) and the International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks in Sea (Nairobi Convention).



PIANC Vice President Calvin Creech Presenting During the Brazil Seminar



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The objective was to raise awareness about the importance of adhering to these instruments and their updates – a great opportunity for PIANC to highlight our international membership, esteemed technical guidance, and included numerous opportunities for knowledge-building.

Calvin Creech
PIANC Vice-President

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TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH ALL OF PIANC’S LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS, [CLICK HERE!](#)