



NEWS RELEASE

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**Navy League of the United States and
International Propeller Club of the United States Forge Strategic Alliance**
Partnership Aims to Support and Educate Public on Commercial Maritime Industry

In conjunction with National Maritime Day on May 22, 2010, the Navy League of the United States and the International Propeller Club of the United States announced a strategic alliance of the two non-profit organizations that is intended to provide stronger, more visible support of the nation's commercial maritime industry. Both organizations have long histories in the U.S. as vocal advocates on behalf of maritime interests. The alliance of the organizations aims to further promote and educate the American public about the U.S.-flag merchant Marine, the commercial shipping industry and the work of commercial mariners.

A strong commercial U. S.-Flag commercial Merchant Marine has long been an integral part of national defense logistics . Ninety-five percent of the equipment and supplies required to deploy the U.S. armed forces is delivered by ship. U. S.-Flagged commercial and government-owned vessels, manned by more than 8,000 U.S. citizen mariners, continue to play a significant and indispensable role in strategic sealift support for Afghanistan and Iraq operations while supporting Department of Defense peacetime needs for ocean transportation worldwide.

“As a maritime nation, the United States depends not only on a strong Navy and Coast Guard to ensure our interests worldwide, but also requires a strong commercial maritime industry,” said, Daniel B. Branch, Jr., the Navy League’s National President “We rely on the commercial shipping industry to provide safe, reliable, and environmentally-friendly domestic waterborne transportation, maintain a United States presence in international shipping, and help sustain the ship construction and repair, marine supplier, and vessel operating and management industrial base.”

“The common interest of our organizations in maintaining the position of the United States as a maritime nation is obvious,” said Rolf Marshall, President of the International Propeller Club. “We envision that under the alliance our organizations will advocate for a strong maritime industry at the national level and encourage increased coordination and joint activities by our over 300 local branches worldwide.”

Navy League of the United States

The Navy League is a non-profit civilian organization founded in 1902, dedicated to educating the American public, particularly elected officials, about the importance of the nation’s sea services – the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and U.S-flag Merchant Marine, and supporting the men and women of the sea services and their families. The Navy League has more than 52,000 members in 250 local Councils around the world. For more information about the Navy League visit www.navyleague.org.

International Propeller Club of the United States

The International Propeller Club of the United States founded in 1927 is a grassroots, non-profit organization, whose membership resides throughout the United States and the world. It is dedicated to the enhancement and well-being of all interests of the maritime community on a national and international basis. The Propeller Club aggressively promotes the maritime industry through many of its programs and partnering with other similar organizations. The Propeller Club has more than 8,000 members in over 100 local Ports around the world. For more information about the Propeller Club visit www.propellerclubhq.com.

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