



News Release

## OCEAN INDUSTRY CEO'S AGAIN CONVENE AT WOC SUSTAINABLE OCEAN SUMMIT (SOS)

**“Ocean Executive Forum” – The Signature High-level, Multi-industry Leadership Dialogue at the World Ocean Council (WOC) Sustainable Ocean Summit**

7 November 2017

**The WOC *Ocean Executive Forum* will bring together a unique, cross-sectoral panel of CEOs at the 2017 Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS) to engage in a high-level plenary discussion to advance industry leadership and collaboration in ocean sustainable development.**

**The SOS 2017 *Ocean Executive Forum* panel will include:**

- *Oil and Gas*: Mike Utsler, Chief Operating Officer, Woodside Energy
- *Ports*: Karen Oldfield, President and CEO, Halifax Port Authority
- *Fisheries*: Ian Smith, CEO, Clearwater Seafoods
- *Shipping*: Ben Christian, Vice President – Marine Services, TOTE Services
- *Ship Registries*: Scott Bergeron, CEO, Liberian International Ship and Corporate Registry
- *Ocean Energy*: Reenst Lesemann, CEO, Columbia Power Technologies
- *Indigenous Corporations*: Bernd Christmas, CEO, Gitpo STORMS
- *Ocean Data/Technology*: Joe Turner, CEO, Exocetus Autonomous Systems

This extraordinary high-level, multi-industry panel will consider the challenges and opportunities for the private sector to respond to the growing need to responsibly supply energy, food, transport and information from the sea. Additional CEOs from other sectors will be joining the panel as their availability is confirmed.

The WOC is also pleased to announce the “CEOcean Club”, an invitation-only gathering for C-level and VIP delegates at the SOS.

**Participation opportunities at SOS 2017, Halifax, 29 Nov-1 Dec, are filling faster than WOC has ever before experienced. [Click here for SOS 2017 information, registration and sponsorship opportunities.](#)**

A growing list of [SOS 2017 Sponsors](#) from around the world is supporting this important gathering of the ocean business community.

- Gold Sponsor: [TCC Group](#)
- Silver Sponsors: [McInnes Cooper](#), [Rightship](#), [Woodside Energy](#)
- Bronze Sponsors: [Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security \(ANCORS\)](#), [IHC Mining BV](#), [Liquid Robotics](#), [Louisbourg Seafoods](#)

- Additional sponsors: AGAWA Partners, Discover Halifax, exactEarth, Resolute Marine Energy, SubCtech, Thordon Bearings

A growing number and range of SOS 2017 [Media Partners and Industry Organization Endorsers](#) from around the world and across the sectors are also part of this exceptional global event.

The [SOS 2017 Program](#) continues to add senior representatives and presentations from industry, government and other stakeholders

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## [Sustainable Ocean Summit \(SOS\) 2017: 29 Nov-01 Dec, Halifax, Canada](#)

SOS 2017 Theme: *"The Ocean Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 14):  
Business Leadership and Business Opportunities"*

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### REGISTER AND PARTICIPATE

Participate in the only yearly ocean business community summit:

Become a WOC "Affiliate Member" and benefit from reduced registration rates for SOS 2017.  
Join the WOC "Young Ocean Professionals" (YOPs) to receive reduced SOS 2017 registration rates.

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### PARTNER AND SPONSOR

**SOS PARTNERS and SPONSORS:** [Join the leadership organizations supporting the SOS 2017!](#)  
SOS 2017 Partner and [Sponsorship opportunities](#) are still available.

**SOS Event Endorsers and Media Partners:** Join organizations and media companies working with WOC as SOS 2017 [Event Endorsers and Media Partners](#).

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## Upcoming WOC Outreach and Engagement

9-16 November, BONN

**U.N. Climate Change Convention – Conference of the Parties (COP) 23** – Participant

17-19 November, HALIFAX

**Halifax International Security Forum** – Invited Speaker

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### About the World Ocean Council (WOC)

*The WOC is the only international, cross-sectoral alliance for private sector leadership and collaboration in sustainability, stewardship and science. Companies from a range of industries worldwide are distinguishing themselves as leaders in "Corporate Ocean*

*Responsibility”, including: shipping, oil and gas, tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, mining, renewable energy, ocean technology, investment. WOC Members are listed [here](#), a part of the WOC Network of 35,000+ ocean industry stakeholders around the world. The WOC is a registered not-for-profit organization in the US and the UK/Europe.*

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