



THE NATIONAL TRADE
ASSOCIATION OF THE TUGBOAT,
TOWBOAT AND BARGE INDUSTRY

THE AMERICAN WATERWAYS OPERATORS

WHO IS AWO?



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THE AMERICAN WATERWAYS OPERATORS

America's Tugboat, Towboat and Barge Industry



ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The American Waterways Operators (AWO) is the national trade association for the U.S. tugboat, towboat and barge industry. For over 60 years, AWO has promoted a greater understanding of the vital, safe and environmentally sound contribution to the U.S. economy of the domestic waterways transportation industry. AWO acts as the principal advocate for the industry in Washington, D.C. with key policymakers and federal officials.

AWO maintains regional offices in Seattle, St. Louis, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C. These offices manage state legislative and regional regulatory issues and maintain an effective grassroots network for congressional advocacy.

Organized in Washington, D.C. in 1944, AWO is now comprised of over 400 member companies that serve the diverse needs of U.S. shippers and consumers. AWO members operate throughout the United States on America's rivers; canals; in its ports and harbors; on the Great Lakes; and on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts.

AWO is governed by an elected body of 52 members who serve on the association's Board of Directors. The Board is responsible for development and approval of policy and strategy.

AWO'S MISSION

To promote the long term economic soundness of the tugboat, towboat and barge industry, and to enhance the industry's ability to provide safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible transportation, through advocacy, public information, and the establishment of safety standards.



AWO'S VALUES

AWO Members:

1. Operate their companies in an ethical manner that benefits the public, their employees, and the environment;
2. Recognize that the waterways of the U.S. are a shared resource and a national asset for all;
3. Foster the development of responsible legislation, regulations, and safety procedures that safeguard the community, the workplace, and the environment;
4. Practice and promote the precepts of the Responsible Carrier Program; and,
5. Preserve the industry heritage of cooperative endeavors, and the presentation of a unified voice.



The U.S. Department of Transportation has projected that the demand for commercial waterways transportation will more than double by 2025.