

## About AWO

The American Waterways Operators is the national advocate for the U.S. tugboat, towboat and barge industry, which serves the nation as the safest, most environmentally friendly and most economical mode of freight transportation. Our industry's 5,500 tugboats and towboats and 31,000 barges fuel the American economy by transporting more than 760 million tons of domestic cargo each year. AWO members operate on the rivers, coasts, Great Lakes and harbors of the United States, moving vital commodities safely; reducing air emissions, water pollution, and highway congestion; protecting homeland security; and providing family-wage jobs for tens of thousands of Americans. Since 1944, AWO has worked to promote the long-term economic soundness of the industry.

*The mission of The American Waterways Operators is to be the national unifying association of the American tugboat, towboat and barge industry, serving as the definitive spokesman for this industry in Washington, DC and throughout the nation.* AWO's objectives include:

- I. To fully engage its members on all matters involving Congress, federal departments and agencies, and other public and private entities that affect the industry.
- II. To inform government and the media of AWO's positions on public policy issues and to effectively influence policymakers and thought leaders.
- III. To continuously promote a positive image of the barge and towing industry in support of industry's advocacy objectives.
- IV. To promote the highest standards of health, safety, training and environmental stewardship throughout the tugboat, towboat and barge industry.

There is strength in numbers. Just as it has since 1944, AWO has your back, delivering for your company and our industry what none of us can do on our own.

## Benefits of AWO Membership

- Your company will have access to the [Responsible Carrier Program®](#) (RCP). The RCP is a safety management system for tugboat, towboat and barge companies that improves marine safety and environmental protection. This objective is accomplished by establishing industry operating principles and practices as voluntary standards of conduct for tugboat and towboat companies.  
AWO members benefit from being associated with an industry-wide safety management system that elevates the operating standards and reputation of our industry with key government agencies. The RCP has also been accepted by the U.S. Coast Guard as an existing safety management system that meets the Towing Safety Management System requirements of Subchapter M.
- Your company will be funding a powerful advocate who will work to make your voice heard on Capitol Hill. AWO tells our industry's story to policymakers, the media, and the public, spreading the word about the value it provides to our nation's economy, security and quality of life. AWO leads the fight to promote responsible maritime legislation and prevent unworkable regulations that undermine the efficiency of maritime commerce.
- AWO is there when you need help, offering access to knowledgeable industry peers and a dedicated professional staff with a superb reputation for excellence and customer service.

- AWO membership includes access to AWO's Coast Guard-approved Alternative Security Program (ASP), which was developed by industry experts based on a comprehensive assessment of industry security vulnerabilities. Use of the AWO ASP satisfies Coast Guard regulatory requirements for vessel security plans. AWO ensures the ASP remains current with Coast Guard requirements.
- AWO hosts numerous events throughout the year that enable members to stay current on industry developments and share best practices with one another. Your company may attend and participate in all of AWO's many functions: semi-annual conventions, committee meetings, regional meetings and roundtables, and Board of Directors meetings.
- In 2015, AWO implemented a web-based Safety Statistics Reporting Program to help member companies foster a culture of safety and strive toward continuous improvement. The program provides a simple, confidential means by which to track: vessel crew hours; crew fatalities; recordable injuries; lost-time injuries; falls overboard; reportable spills; and volume of spills. The program gives members access to reports and tools that allow them to benchmark their company data against other companies in their sector and AWO's membership overall.
- AWO members operating on the Western Rivers can utilize the Coast Guard-approved AWO Alternative Planning Criterion (APC) to satisfy the regulatory requirement to identify and ensure the availability of emergency towing providers in their vessel response plans. The AWO APC builds on the barge industry's long history of mutual assistance as a practical alternative to contracting for standby emergency towing capability.
- Employees from your company may serve as a member of our many standing and special committees, including working groups, where the fundamental work of the association is done.
- Your company will receive a subscription to the *AWO Letter*, which will keep you informed of the latest developments in our industry and in our association.
- Your company will receive the association's *Annual Report*, legislative and regulatory position papers, and many other valuable analyses and alerts. AWO tells you what you need to know about government actions and safety issues that affect you, cutting through the clutter and helping you focus on what's important.
- Your company is entitled to use the AWO logo in your advertising and on your website, stationery and business cards.

## Responsible Carrier Program Compliance

In order to be eligible for AWO membership and to remain a member in good standing, companies that own or operate tugboats, towboats, or barges engaged in U.S. domestic transportation must achieve compliance with the [AWO Responsible Carrier Program®](#), International Safety Management Code (ISM), or an AWO-recognized third-party organization audited safety management system equivalent to the AWO Responsible Carrier Program. Such commitment shall be demonstrated as follows:

- All first-time AWO carrier members shall undergo an external management audit and required vessel audits, conducted by an AWO-recognized third party organization, within one year of joining the association. New members are in provisional status until the completion of the second external management audit during the initial three-year audit cycle.
- All rejoining AWO carrier members shall undergo an external management audit and required vessel

audits, conducted by an AWO-approved third party organization, prior to rejoin approval; the audit must show 90 days of Responsible Carrier Program Compliance.

## Instructions for Applying

To apply for membership, complete the attached Carrier Membership Application and submit electronically to the Manager – Meetings & Membership, Anne Fazzini, via email at [afazzini@americanwaterways.com](mailto:afazzini@americanwaterways.com).

Upon receipt of the Carrier Membership Application, you will be contacted by the membership team within two business days. At that time you will be provided your total dues calculation and the pro-rated amount for the remainder of the calendar year.

In order for your application to be submitted for approval, the following items must be in the possession of the Manager – Meetings & Membership by the schedule noted below:

- Carrier Membership Application
  - Signed Carrier Membership Agreement
  - Company Information Form
  - Equipment Report
- One of the following:
  - A check or completed credit card authorization form for the first quarter pro-rated dues
  - A check or completed credit card authorization form for the total pro-rated dues

Applications are submitted for approval by the President on the business day closest to the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. All required materials must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> or the 10<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

Once membership is approved, you will receive a New Member Welcome Packet in the mail. This will serve as your notice of approval. Please note that the Manager – Meetings & Membership is not permitted to inform you of approval in advance of the packet's receipt. He/she will only be able to inform you of the submission status.

Note: If a carrier company is re-applying for membership in AWO after a previous termination of membership, either voluntary or involuntary, they will be required to meet two additional requirements.

- All returning members, regardless of membership type, will be required to pay the balance owed at the time of membership termination.
- Additionally, all carrier members wishing to return to AWO membership must show evidence of having completed an external management audit and required vessel audits prior to submitting the application for membership. RCP Addendum B.4. states, "Effective May 1, 2009, any company reapplying for AWO membership must show evidence of having completed an RCP management audit and vessel audits of at least ten percent (10%) of its vessels prior to submitting its membership application. To complete this audit, companies will be required to show 90 days of documentary evidence of compliance with the requirements of the RCP."

## Cost of AWO Carrier Membership and Assessment Reporting Requirements

Assessments are based on the combination of total tonnage at normal full load capacity for barges, plus total nameplate horsepower for powered vessels.

Equipment under charter, or management, for six or more months must be reported by the chartering or managing company for purposes of computing assessments.

When there is more than one carrier under common management, and fewer than all of these companies choose to join AWO, *all* equipment, other than that used to support the company's non-transportation enterprise, of *all* the companies must be aggregated and reported for purposes of computing assessments owed by the joining company, or companies.

Shallow draft vessels of a sister company which is engaged in private carriage in support of the owning company's non-transportation enterprise need not be reported for purposes of computing assessments.

Dues and assessments are based on the calendar year. This means that new members pay a prorated portion of the dues to complete the calendar year in which they join. It is important to keep this in mind as you consider your dues for the coming years.

If a company is re-applying for membership in AWO after a previous termination of membership, either voluntary or involuntary, they will be required to pay the balance owed at the time of membership termination.

Payment can be via check or credit card. Checks should be made out to **The American Waterways Operators** and mailed to the below address:

The American Waterways Operators  
ATTN: Anne Fazzini, Manager – Meeting & Membership  
801 North Quincy Street, Suite 200  
Arlington, Virginia 22203

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**Contributions or gifts to AWO are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. However, they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses subject to restrictions imposed because of association lobbying activities. AWO will notify you annually of the non-deductible portion of your dues — the part which is allocable to lobbying.**

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## Membership Application – Company Information

Please fill out and submit via email to Anne Fazzini at [afazzini@americanwaterways.com](mailto:afazzini@americanwaterways.com).

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Company (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Name for Application Process\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name or Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address (if different from above or if above is P.O. Box): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Company Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Facebook Profile: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Twitter Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Establishment: \_\_\_\_\_

To your knowledge, has the applicant or their parent company ever been a member of The American Waterways Operators?

Yes

No

**\* The contact person for the membership application process will automatically become the Member Representative for the company unless otherwise indicated.** The company's Member Representative is the designated point of contact for all RCP, accounting, and other AWO communications. To designate a different Member Representative, please communicate your Member Representative choice separately to Anne Fazzini via email at [afazzini@americanwaterways.com](mailto:afazzini@americanwaterways.com).

## Membership Application – Company Information (continued)

### Total Fleet Capacities

Please indicate the total capacity for your company in the following categories to allow for proper calculation of the company's annual dues.

Tugboat and Towboat  
**Total Horsepower:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dry Cargo  
**Barge Capacity:** \_\_\_\_\_ tons

Dedicated Ship Assist  
**Total Horsepower:** \_\_\_\_\_

Liquid Cargo  
**Barge Capacity:** \_\_\_\_\_ barrels

### Areas of Operation

Please check any of the following waterway(s) on which your company operates.

- |                                                         |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic                         | <input type="checkbox"/> International                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic Coast                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lower Mississippi (New Orleans to Cairo) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway | <input type="checkbox"/> Missouri River                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ohio River (and tributaries)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia / Snake System        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Coast                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Lakes                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tenn-Tom / Black Warrior System          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf Intracoastal Waterway     | <input type="checkbox"/> Upper Mississippi (Cairo to Minneapolis) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf of Mexico                 | <input type="checkbox"/> US Territories                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois Waterway              | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Lakes                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inland Rivers                  |                                                                   |

## Commodities/Waterway Services

Please check commodities and services transported or offered by your company.

- |                                                                |                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture (Grain & Forest Products) | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Products                                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Grain                                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coal                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Harbor Services (Shipdocking, Fleeting, Bunkering, Other) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Containerized Cargo                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Refined Petroleum Products                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crude Petroleum                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sand, Stone, Gravel                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deck Barge                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Steel                                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dredging/Marine Construction          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tank Barge                                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Bulk Barge                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterways                                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizer                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                              |

## AWO Standing Committees

To fully capitalize on your membership, it is recommended that you sign up to participate in an established committee. Committees meet twice each year to discuss the current issues facing the sector of the industry and to ascertain the best plan of action for AWO's advocacy. Please select one or more committees of interest to you.

- |                                                           |                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Sector Committee         | <input type="checkbox"/> Interregion Safety Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harbor Services Sector Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Safety Committee     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inland Dry Sector Committee      | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Affairs Committee     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inland Liquid Sector Committee   |                                                       |

# Carrier Membership Agreement

The undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, a corporation, or partnership, with principal offices at \_\_\_\_\_, in consideration of like agreements entered into by others and of other valuable consideration hereby acknowledged to have been received, does hereby stipulate and agree to the *Constitution and Bylaws* of The American Waterways Operators, to the general purposes stated therein, and further to hereby subscribe to Carrier Membership therein to be effective upon signing this agreement.

The undersigned agrees, in such cases as the membership assessment is based on vessel equipment, to complete an Equipment Schedule and furnish it with this Carrier Membership Agreement to The American Waterways Operators, 801 North Quincy Street, Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22203.

It is expressly understood and agreed that a ratable assessment may be made by the AWO Board of Directors to defray all proper expenses of the organization.

It is further agreed that a currently applicable Equipment Schedule, certified by an AWO Designated Representative, must be updated at least annually.

It is further understood that in order to be eligible for AWO membership and to remain as a member in good standing, the undersigned that owns or operates tugboats, towboats, or barges engaged in U.S. domestic transportation must, as required by the AWO *Constitution and Bylaws*, achieve compliance with the AWO Responsible Carrier Program within one year.

In witness whereof the above named has on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ month, 20\_\_\_\_ attached his, her, its, or their corporate seal and/or signature hereto.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

*Applications are submitted for approval by the President on the business day closest to the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup> of each month. For inclusion in the submitted applications, all required materials must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> or the 25<sup>th</sup>, respectively.*

**Please mail Membership Agreement, Company Information, and your pro-rated dues payment to:**

The American Waterways Operators  
ATTN: Anne Fazzini, Manager – Meeting & Membership  
801 North Quincy Street, Suite 200  
Arlington, Virginia 22203

## Safety and Responsible Carrier Program Compliance Contact

The primary contact, or Member Representative, is the main point of contact for all billing, RCP, and other member communications. In addition to the Member Representative, a company may choose to designate a secondary RCP contact for all safety communications. If you would like to identify a secondary safety contact, please do so below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name or Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

This individual has the same mailing address as the company.       Yes       No

*If no, please complete:*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Individuals Attached to the Organization

Please indicate employees of your company that you would like to receive information about AWO. Include additional pages as needed. You may list as many individuals as you would like.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name or Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

This individual has the same mailing address as the company.  Yes  No

*If no, please complete:*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name or Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

This individual has the same mailing address as the company.  Yes  No

*If no, please complete:*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_



**2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION EQUIPMENT REPORT**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pursuant to AWO's Carrier Membership Agreement, your Equipment Report must be updated annually. Additions and deletions to the fleet for assessments purposes are updated only on the Annual Equipment Report. Chartered vessels are to be reported by the vessel owner unless the owner has verified that the charterer is reporting the vessel to AWO. This verification should be made BEFORE submitting your Annual Equipment Report to avoid duplicate billing.*

	<b>Vessels Reported for 2018</b>
<u>Cargo Tugboats &amp; Towboats:</u> <small>Total Horsepower of all Cargo Tugboats and Towboats</small>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Dedicated Ship Assist Tugboats:</u> <small>Total Horsepower of all Dedicated Ship Assist Tugboats</small>	<input type="text"/>
<u>Dry Cargo Barges:</u> <small>Total Tonnage Capacity of all Dry Cargo Barges</small>	<input type="text"/> Enter Total (no list)
<u>Liquid Cargo Barges:</u> <small>Total Barrel Capacity of all Liquid Cargo Barges</small>	<input type="text"/> Enter Total (no list)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name:

**Category 1: Cargo Tugboats & Towboats**

Report all boats owned and operated by your company as of your application date.  
Only report boats as **Cargo Tugboats & Towboats** OR **Dedicated Ship Assist Tugboats** to avoid double billing.

	Name of Vessel	HP
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
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32		
33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
	<i>Total Horsepower:</i>	

Company Name:

**Category 2: Dedicated Ship Assist Tugboats**

Report all tugboats owned and operated by your company as of your application date.  
Only report boats as **Cargo Tugboats & Towboats** OR **Dedicated Ship Assist Tugboats** to avoid double billing.

	Name of Vessel	HP
1		
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6		
7		
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9		
10		
11		
12		
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33		
34		
35		
36		
37		
38		
	<i>Total Horsepower:</i>	