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MARINE

FABRICATORS CONFERENCE

Jan. 26–28, 2023

Sheraton New Orleans | New Orleans, LA USA

Textiles.org/MarineConference



— Join us at —

Marine Fabricators Conference 2023

Join your peers and industry suppliers in person during 30 hours of education and networking activities. The annual Marine Fabricators Conference, taking place Jan. 26-28, 2023 in New Orleans, LA, is a unique opportunity to learn about the latest innovations, make new connections and discover new ways to increase revenue.



Discover

Check out what's new on the show floor and take away ideas to grow your business.



Learn

Improve your know-how in interactive efficiency and sessions with industry experts.



Connect

Catch up with colleagues and make new friends at much-anticipated networking events.

REGISTER TODAY!

Textiles.org/MarineConference

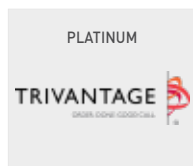
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2023 Schedule

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 25

Noon–5 pm

Registration Open

THURSDAY, JAN. 26

7 am–6 pm

Registration Open

7:30–8:30 am

Coffee with the Chairs

Stop by and grab a cup of coffee and chat with the MFA Chairman Keith Purves, Vice-Chair Charlene Clark and the whole MFA Ambassador volunteer team. This is a great chance for new attendees to learn about the best ways to take advantage of being at the conference and make some new friends!

8:30–10 am

Team Growth and Retention

Clint Halladay, Sewlong Custom Covers

Turnover prevents traction, slows growth, and erodes culture. How can you keep the team you have, and also attract like-minded people? Clint Halladay will share SewLong's story of the ups and downs of their teammate retention and how they turned a declining culture into a uniquely engaged family that is dedicated to service and delivering innovative craftsmanship.

You will learn how to:

- Maximize and organize onboarding
- Transform positions in your organization into career paths
- Inspire your team with a shared vision

10:15–11:45 am

Virtual Shop Tours

View a variety of video tours of shops of all sizes from across the country. Representatives from the featured shops will be on hand to discuss their shop layout and answer questions.

Noon–1 pm

Lunch

1–3 pm

Intro to Digital: 2D vs 3D

Jamie Marozzi, Bayview Canvas and
Carl Peligrini, SeaCanvas LLC

Wondering what the difference between digital and traditional patterning really is? Find out during this practical comparison and gain insight into the pros and cons that affect cost, time, accuracy etc. Jamie and Carl will be patterning the same job, one traditionally with plastic and one digitally with a pro liner and sharing the process and end results.

3:15–5 pm

Canvas and Upholstery Showoff Showcase

Moderator: Vince Innocenzi, Chicago Marine Canvas

This product showcase features a variety of fabricators showing off the projects they do best! Learn new ways to approach these projects and get tips and pointers from the craftspeople who created them.

6:30–9 pm

Welcome Costume Party

Kick off your week in style with music, dancing, and refreshments during the Annual Costume Party. The 2023 theme is Sailors and Sea Creatures—let your creativity go wild! Heavy appetizers and refreshments will be provided.

FRIDAY, JAN. 27

7:30 am–5:30 pm

Registration Open

8:30–10:15 am

Upholstery Questions Answered

Jim Cowan, Premier Performance Interiors

This interactive forum features answers to your questions! Submit your upholstery-related questions when you register for the conference and help guide the discussion. Questions can range from selecting materials, foams, and plastic substrates to repatterning old parts or designing new ones, and everything in between.



10:30-11:30 am

Community Boat Project

Moderator: Derek Robinson, Eqodry USA & Fabric Tattoo

This annual event returns with new projects! Once again, a team of fabricators will work together to take on a variety of projects and give a boat a canvas facelift - offering a great opportunity for the students in the Boat Building program at the Beaufort County Community College (BCCC) to see real world canvas applications. Case studies for the various projects will be presented with design, fabrication and workflow considerations. The finished boat will be onsite for attendees to view.

11:30 am-12:30 pm

Lunch

12:30-5:30 pm

Exhibit Floor Open

4:30-5:30 pm

Cocktail Reception

Located on the show floor

SATURDAY, JAN. 28

7:30 am-4:30 pm

Registration Open

8:30-10 am

Soft Vinyl vs Polycarb vs Acrylic

Take a deep dive into the differences between these materials and identify best uses for each type.

10-11:30 am

Brunch and MFA Annual Meeting

11:30 am-12:30 pm

Tools, Tips and Tricks

MC: Keri Ames, Yachtman's Canvas and **Steven Wayne**, Southern Stitch Canvas & Upholstery

This interactive discussion explores the newest tools, clever tips and tricks to make your job faster and easier. Vote for your favorites onsite. Submit your tools, tips and tricks submissions on the show website: Textiles.org/MarineConference.

12:30-1:30 pm

Taking Your Small Shop to the Next Level

Jess Flegel, Oyster Creek Canvas

Whether you're new to the industry or you've been at it awhile and you feel stuck in a loop, progress can seem daunting. Small changes can make a big impact. The goal of this session is that you will be encouraged and empowered to start taking steps to:

- Identify issues and areas for improvement at your shop
- Take simple actions and begin making changes
- See positive change and keep going

1:45-3:30 pm

Patterning Center Console Enclosures

Mike Charlton, Charlton's Marine Canvas

Mike will be sharing special patterning techniques that can be applied to all styles of enclosures along with how to come up with the design to best function on the boat.

3:45-4:45 pm

Marine Flooring

Rob Kotowski and Mark Durecki, Lake Shore Boat Tops Carpeting, woven vinyl and foam eva flooring.

6-6:30 pm

Cocktail Reception

6:30-9 pm

Awards Dinner

MCs: Keith Purves, Trivantage LLC and **Charlene Clark**, Signature Canvasmakers LLC

Gather together one last time and celebrate award-winning projects, industry achievements, and the announcement of the welcome party theme for Marine Fabricators Conference 2024. Dinner and refreshments are provided at this commemorative closing event.



Registration Rates

Visit Textiles.org/MarineConference to register today! Register before Nov. 1, 2022 to receive the early bird registration rate and save \$100 or more on a full registration.

	Member		Nonmember	
	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD
FULL REGISTRATION	\$515	\$675	\$615	\$745
SINGLE DAY	\$295	\$345	\$345	\$375
GUEST REGISTRATION*	\$295	\$345	\$345	\$375
TRADE SHOW ONLY	\$20	\$30	\$30	\$40

Not a member? Join today at Textiles.org/Membership or 800 486 3947.

*includes food and networking events only

Hotel Reservations

Sheraton New Orleans is the headquarters hotel for the conference. All conference activities, except potential city tours, will be held on hotel property. Located on Canal Street, the hotel is steps away from the buzz of the French Quarter.

The Sheraton New Orleans is offering conference attendees the special rate of \$169.

Note: 3% of hotel room fees are being utilized to help defray costs related to food and beverage at the conference.



**Book Your Room
Online Today!**

Textiles.org/MarineConference

Limited space available.

Save Money on Your Flight

Marine Fabricators Conference 2023 has a discount program with Delta Airlines. Depending on your booking class, you may be eligible to save up to 10% on your flight when booking through Delta. Learn more at Textiles.org/MarineConference.



**MARINE
FABRICATORS
ASSOCIATION**

The conference is hosted by the Marine Fabricators Association (MFA), a division of Advanced Textiles Association (ATA). MFA represents marine fabricators and established standards of excellence for business practices, products and craftsmanship.