HOUSTON | NOVEMBER 3, 2026



HEST 2026

HOUSTON ENERGY SHIPPING TALKS

The Future of Moving Energy by Sea

One afternoon with the people shaping how energy moves by sea: markets, fuels, infrastructure and the vessels of the future.

WHEN

Tuesday, November 3, 2026
11:30 AM – 7:00 PM

WHERE

DNV Houston
19219 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX 77094

PRESENTED BY

DNV

NACC
NORWEGIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Innovation Norway

ABOUT THE EVENT

The Future of Moving Energy by Sea

Houston is where American energy meets the sea. HEST 2026 brings shipowners, energy producers, ports, shipyards and service providers together for one afternoon on a single question: how do we safely, sustainably and efficiently move growing volumes of energy by sea?

Four themes

01

Markets & Geopolitics

Energy trade flows, freight and the global forces reshaping demand for shipping.

02

Fuels & Decarbonization

Alternative fuels and decarbonization: what works today, and what comes next.

03

Infrastructure & Investment

Ports, terminals and capital, from the Houston Ship Channel to the cost of disruption.

04

Vessels & Technology

Shipbuilding, new designs and the technology behind the next generation of vessels.

Format

Short talks, each followed by a moderated Q&A, live conversations with industry leaders and a fast-paced game show. A networking reception with drinks and live U.S. election coverage closes the day.

Who should attend

Shipowners and operators, energy producers and traders, ports and terminals, shipyards and technology providers, financiers, regulators and advisers.

SPEAKERS

Highlighted speakers

More speakers and panelists to be announced.



SPEAKER

Martin Cartwright

Global Business Director, Gas Carriers and FSRUs, DNV

Leads DNV's global Gas Carrier segment: LNG, LPG, ammonia, hydrogen and CO2. Master's in Naval Architecture (Glasgow and Strathclyde) and 10 years on newbuildings and ships in operation, from technical support in Northern Europe to gas carriers and decarbonization in South East Asia, the Pacific and India. Based in Oslo.



SPEAKER

Kathrine Langjord

Commercial Counselor, Innovation Norway, Houston

Supports Norwegian companies doing business in the US, with a focus on energy, maritime and CCUS. A global executive leader in cross-border commercial strategy, P&L growth and enterprise transformation across oil and gas, renewables and the energy transition. Will speak on shipping, emissions and the fuel transition.



SPEAKER

Ryan Lynch

Managing Partner, Maritime OIC; former CEO, Hanwha Shipping

Maritime executive and industrial-policy economist focused on the resilience of the US maritime-industrial base, with experience in commodity trading, ship management, shipbuilding and infrastructure capital. Managing Partner of the Maritime OIC group, advising investors and policy makers. Previously a Managing Director at Gunvor Group.



SPEAKER

Paal Thorsen

Business Development Director, Energy Shipping Americas, DNV

Energy shipping executive with over 30 years of experience across LNG, tankers, dry bulk, offshore, seismic and tugs. He has negotiated chartering, S&P and newbuilding contracts and led hybrid battery retrofit and LNG-as-fuel initiatives, with a focus on alternative fuels and safe, sustainable shipping.



SPEAKER

Christopher Stickney

Senior Consultant, Maritime Advisory Americas, DNV

Provides strategic consulting through DNV Maritime Advisory on commercial and technical due diligence, operational assessments, performance optimization and business transformation. Over 13 years in maritime, including seagoing service as a licensed deck officer and shoreside leadership in chemical tanker operations, commercial shipping and sustainability.



SPEAKER

Sergio Chapa

Senior Analyst, LNG Americas, Poten & Partners

Covers the LNG industry in the Americas at Poten & Partners in Houston. Born and raised in Texas, he spent nearly a decade covering US natural gas, Mexico's energy landscape and global LNG as a reporter for the San Antonio Business Journal, Houston Chronicle and Bloomberg. Author of "Frontera: A Journey Along the US-Mexico Border" (TCU Press, 2024).

Program

Talks include a short moderated Q&A. Times subject to change.

11:30 – 12:15	**Registration, light lunch and networking**
12:15 – 12:25	**Welcome and Setting the Scene** **Paal Thorsen, DNV, and Kari de Boer, NACC Houston** Why we created HEST and the themes for the afternoon: markets, ships, fuels, shipbuilding and infrastructure.
12:25 – 12:35	**Opening Industry Conversation** **A Global Energy Trader & Fund Manager (live call-in)** Global energy markets, shipping and the changing role of the U.S. in global energy flows.
12:35 – 1:13	**LNG: The Next Wave of Growth** **Sergio Chapa, Poten & Partners** LNG market developments, global supply and demand, U.S. LNG and changing trade flows.
1:15 – 1:48	**Building the LNG Fleet of the Future** **Martin Cartwright, DNV** LNG carriers, FSRUs, fleet development and technology.
1:50 – 2:00	Break
2:00 – 2:10	**Live Shipowner Conversation** **A Major International Shipowner (live call-in)** A shipowner's perspective on today's energy-shipping market and what lies ahead.
2:15 – 2:43	**The Path to U.S. Shipbuilding** **Ryan Lynch, Maritime OIC** What it will take to rebuild U.S. commercial shipbuilding, what can be learned from Asia and how to get to scale.
2:45 – 3:15	**Shipping, Emissions and the Fuel Transition** **Kathrine Langjord, Innovation Norway** Where shipping stands on emissions and the transition towards new fuels.
3:15 – 3:28	**Where Are the Alternative Fuels?** **Paal Thorsen, DNV** Where alternative-fuel adoption stands today, with a live demonstration of DNV's Alternative Fuels Insight.
3:30 – 3:40	Break
3:42 – 4:13	**Houston's Hidden Maritime Cost: Fog and Disruption** **Christopher Stickney, DNV** The operational and economic impact of fog and disruption on the Houston Ship Channel.
4:15 – 4:27	**Closing Energy Shipping Industry Conversation** **External speaker and audience** A short reflection on the challenges and opportunities raised during the afternoon.
4:30 – 4:50	**The HEST Energy Challenge** A fast-paced interactive game show on markets, ships, fuels and technology. Prizes for the contestants and the winner.
4:50 – 5:00	**Closing Remarks** **Paal Thorsen, DNV** Key takeaways and thanks to speakers, partners and guests.
5:00 – 7:00	**Networking Reception** Drinks, networking and continued conversation. Live television coverage of the U.S. election results.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Join us on November 3

Seats are limited. Register to secure yours.

WHEN & WHERE

Tuesday, November 3, 2026
11:30 AM – 7:00 PM
DNV Houston
19219 Katy Fwy
Houston, TX 77094

TICKETS

NACC Member: $35
Non-Member: $50
plus service fee

SPEAK OR SPONSOR

Kari de Boer
Director of Strategy & Growth, NACC Houston
deboerkari@gmail.com

REGISTER

nacchouston.org/events/hest-2026-houston-energy-shipping-talks

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nacchouston.org/join-nacc-houston

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