

7th Annual 'Western Hemisphere Ports Day'

The Port of Harlingen Authority and [American Association of Port Authorities \(AAPA\)](#) – the unified and recognized voice of seaports in the Americas - and its entire hemispheric membership will commemorate Western Hemisphere Ports Day on April 5th again this year. The annual event recognizes the port industry's role in efficient goods movement, job creation and propelling the economy in nations they serve across the Americas.

This year's Ports Day theme, *Resiliency & Building a Sustainable Future*, explores the willpower, adaptability, and drive of the port industry, and how these qualities have continuously navigated this industry through challenging times.

During these times of crisis and uncertainty, ports will always have a vital role in moving necessities and goods all over the hemisphere; ensuring that grocery store shelves remain stocked, small local businesses succeed, and militaries, in times of war, get the essential materials they need.

Ports are at the forefront of modernizing supply chain infrastructure, utilizing new, innovative ideas to create a more sustainable future. They are job creators, good neighbors, and always striving to build a better tomorrow. In fact, more than 6,000 job opportunities are produced by the impact of The Port of Harlingen.

Ports also play a critical role in providing goods that impact our everyday lives. Millions of tons of essential cargo, valued at more than \$10 billion, move through Western Hemisphere seaports every day. At the Port of Harlingen, more than 3 million in commodities move across our docks, roads, rail and facilities to and from the region. According to a 2018 study, this creates a billion impact on our economy and brings in more than \$17 million in local and state tax dollars.

American seaports are propelling job-creation and economic growth at a blistering speed. Now, ports sustain 31 million jobs and generate economic activity representing 26 percent of the U.S. economy. Each year, \$2.2 trillion in freight moves through U.S. ports; ports drive \$378.1 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenue; and consumers spend \$139.2 billion on products that move through ports.

Ports are also integral stewards of the environment. Utilizing the latest technology and alternative energy for environmental sustainability, ports hard work to lessen the burden on our planet.

No matter what, AAPA-member ports, like The Port of Harlingen, are ready to deliver the products you need and want, keep your shopping cart filled, and take whatever actions are needed to support a strong and stable economy.

#PortsDeliver.