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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Shipbuilders and Suppliers “Sail In” to Washington on May 15 for Shipbuilders Council of America’s 2019 Annual Meeting; SCA Launches New Website Shipbuilders.org**

- *Meeting to focus on combating cyber and national security threats to America’s mariners and fleet and will establish the first Cybersecurity Committee*
- *SCA to award 20 shipbuilding, repair, and supplier organizations for making great strides in safety*

**WASHINGTON - The Shipbuilders Council of America (SCA)**, the national trade association representing the U.S. shipyard industry, today announced that more than 70 shipbuilding and repair organizations will be represented at their 2019 annual meeting beginning on Wednesday, May 15. Ahead of the meeting, SCA launched Shipbuilders.org, a site dedicated to sharing important policy and industry information about U.S. shipbuilding and repair industry and the supplier industrial base, as well as highlight the work and dedication of the men and women of the maritime and shipbuilding community.

The 2019 meeting will provide the strategic focus of the organization, its members and partners. “SCA’s annual meeting is an important time for hundreds of industry organizations to join in Washington to communicate with lawmakers about industrial base issues, and this year, we will focus on shipbuilding innovations, recognizing improvements in safety practices and incidents rates, and cybersecurity,” **said Matthew Paxton, President of SCA.**

This year, attendees will hear from **Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA), Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT), Rep. Bradley Byrne (R-AL), and Rep. John Rutherford (FL-04)**, as well as cybersecurity experts from the private and public sectors. SCA will also announce **the formation of their first Cybersecurity Committee.**

“Threats to our national security have been a constant since the very founding of our country, and for decades, the men and women who build, repair and maintain the U.S. fleet have remained at the frontlines of innovating against those threats. Whether it be designing and building vessels that can carry military supplies, repairing the USS Cole after she was bombed, or defending against cyber attacks, the shipbuilding and repair industry has remained dedicated partner in the fight against threats the nation and the servicemen and women who defend the U.S. daily. Our new Cybersecurity Committee will provide guidance on how the shipbuilding industry can stay on top of cyberwarfare threats our nation faces on a daily basis,” said **SCA Chairman, Terry O’Brien**.

**An important part of each SCA Annual meeting is recognizing excellence in safety. This year a record number of awards will be presented** to companies that have zero recordable fatalities for the year, a Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) of 1.0 or below, and that have submitted safety surveys for all four quarters of the year. **Maritime Leadership Awards** will be given to members of Congress who have demonstrated exemplary dedication and support of the U.S. shipbuilding and repair industry.

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***About the Shipbuilders Council of America (SCA)***

*SCA is a national trade association representing the U.S. shipyard industry. SCA members constitute the shipyard industrial base that builds, repairs, maintains and modernizes U.S. Navy ships and craft, U.S. Coast Guard vessels of all sizes, as well as vessels for other U.S. government agencies. In addition, SCA members build, repair and service America's fleet of commercial vessels. The Council represents 41 companies that own and operate over 80 shipyards, with facilities on all three U.S. coasts, the Great Lakes, the inland waterways system, Alaska and Hawaii. SCA also represents 110 partner members that provide goods and services to the shipyard industry. Follow SCA on Facebook and Twitter @ShipbuildersUSA.*