



Phyllis Saathoff

Executive Director/CEO

Phyllis Saathoff is an accomplished executive with over 25 years of service in the port industry. With a strong accounting and finance background combined with her operational leadership, Phyllis brings a proven track record to Port Freeport.

Saathoff began her maritime career at Port Freeport in 1992. She served as Managing Director, and then in April 2012, became the Interim Executive Director/CEO before joining the Port of Houston Authority in October 2012. Saathoff served in various capacities during her tenure at the Port of Houston Authority including, Chief People Officer and Deputy Executive Director of Corporate Affairs. She was responsible for public affairs, strategic planning, channel development, freight mobility and environmental affairs. Saathoff returned to Port Freeport in April 2016 as the Chief Executive Officer.

Under Saathoff's leadership, the Port has been successful in obtaining U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chief's Report to Congress to deepen the Freeport Harbor Channel to 56 feet and in financing and initiating the development of the Port's first container terminal. Being the recipient of the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for 29 consecutive years demonstrates Saathoff's commitment to public transparency and accountability.

Education

Saathoff earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, is a certified public accountant and Professional Port Manager®.

Affiliations & Community Involvement

Saathoff has been recognized as one of the Top 10 Women in Gulf Transportation by Gulf Shipper Magazine. A recognized expert in port emergency preparedness, she is the author of the Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Operations Planning Manual for Best Practices for ports.

Past president of the National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones and former treasurer of the Texas Gulf Ports Association, Saathoff currently serves as Chairwoman on the Port Authority Advisory Committee to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), HGAC Transportation Policy Council member, Vice President of Texas Ports Association and serves on the board of directors for the National Waterways Conference. Phyllis also serves on the board of directors and executive committee of the Economic Development Alliance of Brazoria County and as a member of the University of Houston – Clear Lake College of Business Dean's Advisory Council.

Personal

A resident of Brazoria County since 1983, Saathoff enjoys outdoor activities including golfing and hiking.

Port Freeport

Nationally, Port Freeport is ranked 10th in chemicals, 26th in containers, and 19th in total tonnage. The Freeport Harbor Channel serves The Dow Chemical Company, Phillips 66, BASF, Tenaris, Vulcan Materials Company, Mammoet, Horizon Terminal Services, Freeport LNG, Riviana Foods, Inc., Dole Fresh Fruit, Chiquita Fresh N.A., Seaway Pipeline Company and Seaway Marine Terminal, CMA-CGM, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) and Hoegh Autoliners. You can learn more about Port Freeport at www.portfreeport.com.