

I am writing to seek your support with <u>Discover Global Markets (DGM): The Blue Economy</u>, a Department of Commerce high priority event for 2022. The event will identify export opportunities for local businesses within marine renewables, commercial marine, port technology and services, maritime security and defense, ocean sciences, and other related industries. We request your help in supporting Southern California companies to attend. For instance, the DECs in Wisconsin and Connecticut are supporting the participation of companies in their respective states. We are hoping to increase participation of California exporters, as they would greatly benefit from the event.

Estimates indicate that the value of the global Blue Economy will double over the next decade and is projected to reach \$3 trillion by 2030. This is expected to create significant economic and ecological developments in regions such as Southern California. For instance, LA County's Blue Economy is forecasted to directly employ 126,000 workers by 2023 and generate \$80.1 billion in regional output. Thus, DGM is an incredible opportunity for businesses in Southern California to take advantage of growing international opportunities.

Through DGM, businesses will learn about market opportunities, the project pipeline, and how to operationalize a strategy for increased export business. The event will also focus extensively on the economic importance of technologies at local and overseas ports- a topic that Southern Californian firms would find meaningful amidst the growing importance of the region's ports (Port of LA, Port of Long Beach, and Port of Hueneme). Along with this, businesses will have the unique opportunity to network with global CEOs, marketing and business development managers, government officials, international buyers, trade specialists, and fellow attendees from Southern California such as TMA BlueTech.

The regular cost to attend Discover Global Markets is \$645. However, sponsorship from the DECSC will enable aspiring companies from across Orange, LA, Ventura, and Santa Barbara counties to attend this event at no cost, and the cost to the DEC would be \$495 per registrant. See attached promotion examples from Wisconsin.



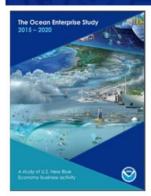








## The Ocean Enterprise Study 2015-2020



**Objective:** Understand the scale and scope of US New Blue Economy business activity and how this has changed since 2015.

