



Ocean Exchange Names the Finalists for the 2022 Neptune, Orcelle® and Transportation Hub Awards

Three \$100,000 prizes to be conferred at upcoming Ocean Exchange event

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, October 3, 2022 – With its 2022 event set for October 23-25, Ocean Exchange has named the finalists for the Neptune, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Orcelle®, and Ocean Exchange Transportation Hub Innovation Awards, which will be conferred on October 25. The winner of each award will receive prize money of \$100,000 US. Based in Fort Lauderdale, Ocean Exchange is a leader in supporting the acceleration of innovative solutions for healthy oceans and the sustainable Blue Economy.

Twelve candidates for each track have been chosen to present their solutions at the Ocean Exchange event. In all, 23 companies have been designated as finalists, with one company selected as a candidate for both the Neptune and Orcelle awards. Thirteen are from the USA, 2 from Canada, 2 each from the United Kingdom and Spain, and 1 each from Singapore, Ireland, Portugal and Tanzania. Solutions fall into the following categories: alternative materials, CO₂, data/robotics, digitalization, energy, fisheries/marine habitat, vessel/port operations, and water treatment.

The winner for each of the three awards will be chosen—based on the impact, level of innovation, and the ability to execute the presented solution—by delegates representing business, academia, government, and non-profits.

- The **Neptune Award 2022** will be given to the solution that advances our understanding of the ocean and helps minimize our impact on these resources, even while using them for human benefit, resulting in more resilient bodies of water including healthy marine life and coastlines.
- Wallenius Wilhelmsen's **2022 Orcelle Award** will go to the solution that creates the most sustainable value for its business in regard to social, community or environmental issues, whether on land or at sea.
- The **Transportation Hub Award** will be given to the solution that makes ocean-, inland-, and air-ports and other logistics hubs more sustainable with technologies that support clean water and air, conservation of precious natural resources near ports/hubs, efficient road/rail/warehousing supporting the ports, and state-of-the-art sustainable port-hub land management.

“This year represents a significant milestone for Ocean Exchange. Not only are we celebrating our 11th awards program, but we also received an unprecedented number of applications for our awards from

countries around the world. And while some of the growth may be attributed to the expansion of our program from two to three awards, I firmly believe that it is also due to the recognition that our oceans and the corresponding Blue Economy are among the world's most important resources and can benefit from innovative solutions that inspire action," said Millicent Pitts, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of Ocean Exchange.

As the Ocean Exchange program continues to grow, so does its team of event moderators provided by long-time partner Reservoir LLC. This year, according to Reservoir's founding partner Dan Dainton, Inna Ulanova and Herb Dyer of Reservoir will serve as host moderators to engage the audience with the finalist presentations. Reservoir provides deep resources for leadership and serves a trusted and experienced guide in unfamiliar waters.

The Ocean Exchange Awards Program is made possible by the support of sponsors, partners and leading industry experts from around the globe. "An initiative such as this, which promotes the acceleration of technologies designed to help solve critical global issues, could not exist without their support and dedication and the participation of gifted entrepreneurs from all corners of the world," noted Pitts.

Full lists of the finalists, along with more information about the solutions to be presented, are available at [Orcelle and Ports \(Transportation Hub\) Awards](#) and [Neptune Award](#). For more information about the event and Ocean Exchange's mission, visit the [Ocean Exchange website](#).

About Ocean Exchange

Ocean Exchange is a global ecosystem whose mission is to accelerate the adoption of innovative solutions for healthy oceans and the sustainable blue economy. A 501(c)(3), Ocean Exchange fulfills this mission through a rigorous, multi-level program that includes annual monetary awards, promoting registered Solutions Inspiring Action across multiple communication channels, and facilitating access to the global network comprising its Board of Directors, Delegates, Solutions Review Team, Executive Team and other experts from around the world. Ocean Exchange's mission is funded largely by private donations including those from Wallenius Wilhelmsen, Royal Caribbean, Schmidt Marine Technology Partners, Oceanskind, Marine Research Hub of South Florida, Oceaneering, Angus Littlejohn, Jr. Family, and others who share the passion for healthy oceans. To learn more, visit Oceanexchange.org.

Media Contact:

Ann Seamonds
Ocean Exchange
+1-978-764-5528
seamonds@seamonds.com

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