



Bryan Bauernfeind

Vice President & General Manager
Quality Container Transport, Inc.

[LinkedIn](#)

[Bio](#)

Bryan Bauerfeind is a logistics and maritime operations professional with Quality Container Transport, where he has contributed to the company's growth and operational performance for more than three years. He brings extensive experience from prior leadership roles, including serving as Senior Director of Operations at CMA CGM in the ports of Los Angeles (LA) and Long Beach (LGB), and as Senior Manager of Port & Marine for APL, supporting operations across the U.S. East Coast and Gulf regions.

Based in Tampa, Bryan holds an Associate of Arts in Business from Daytona College and is committed to advancing efficient, reliable transportation solutions across Florida's logistics network.



Chris Sawchuk

Principal and Global Procurement Advisory Practice Leader
The Hackett Group

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[Bio](#)

Chris Sawchuk leads Hackett's global sourcing and procurement advisory practice. He has more than 20 years of experience in supply management, with Global 2000 and mid-sized companies around the globe. Chris has been active in a variety of industries to improve all aspects of supply management, including process redesign, technology enablement, operations strategy planning, organizational change and strategic sourcing. He is a regular contributor to business publications, a frequent presenter at industry events, and author of numerous research papers and books.



David Dezso

Founder / Chief Executive Officer
Banyan Risk Group

[LinkedIn](#)
[Bio](#)

David Dezso is an expert in geopolitical analysis and operations. A former Green Beret and Special Operations soldier, David brings a unique perspective to understanding global crises. As the CEO of Banyan Risk Group (Banyan), he has leveraged his extensive operational experience across diverse regions, including Middle East, Latin America, Europe, North and East Africa, Asia, and the Caucuses. Before founding Banyan, David held executive positions at a prominent global energy company, where he served as Director of Operations and Sales.

David holds an MBA from Rice University, a Juris Doctor from South Texas College of Law, and a Bachelor of Sciences from The Citadel.



Diane Luensmann

Vice President, Government and Strategic Communications
Port Canaveral

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Diane Luensmann is Vice President, Government and Strategic Communications responsible for the Canaveral Port Authority's government relations and port-wide communications. An experienced communications and marketing professional, she has over two decades of policy and political experience that spans federal and state government, and private industry. She was the first female to be named president of a full-service New England advertising agency. She joined the Port in March 2017.

Diane is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College and holds a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. She earned a Bachelor degree from Worcester State University.



Emanuel Ojeda

Logistics Analyst

Kane's Furniture

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Emanuel Ojeda is a Logistics Analyst at Kane's Furniture, where he supports transportation operations, international trade coordination, and freight optimization across the company's supply chain network. He plays a key role in managing import/export logistics, carrier relationships, and pricing strategies to ensure efficient and cost-effective product movement.

Known for his detail-oriented approach and ability to coordinate complex logistics processes, he works closely with vendors, carriers, and internal teams to drive operational efficiency and continuous improvement. He studied at CBT Technology Institute, further strengthening his foundation in business and logistics operations.



Frederick Wong

Deputy Port Director / Chief Operating Officer

PortMiami

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Deputy Wong oversees PortMiami's cruise and cargo operations, vessel berthing, housekeeping, facilities maintenance, permits, safety, and security, including coordination with Miami-Dade Police. He chairs the Crane Management Board, guiding the port's STS cranes. He is also involved in major initiatives such as e-RTGs, wharf electrification, yard densification, and cruise shore power. With over 32 years of port operations experience, he previously served as COO at JAXPORT and Assistant Port Director at PortMiami.

Deputy Wong holds a BBA from Florida Atlantic University. He is a certified Professional Port Manager (AAPA), and a graduate of Leadership Florida, Class 39.



Greg Lovelace

Senior Vice President of Marketing and Business Development
Port Tampa Bay

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Greg Lovelace is Senior Vice President of Marketing & Business Development at Port Tampa Bay, bringing more than 30 years of experience in maritime business development and marketing. Since joining the port in 1996, he has played a key role in expanding cargo and cruise business, working closely with shipping lines, beneficial cargo owners, and logistics partners to maximize terminal utilization and drive growth. He has led strategic initiatives that strengthen the port's competitive position and support Florida's expanding role in global trade.

Prior to Port Tampa Bay, Greg spent a decade with Evergreen Marine. Greg serves on the Statewide Steering Committee for the Florida Supply Chain Summit. He holds an MBA from the University of New Orleans.



Ike Sherlock

Chief Executive Officer
Air Van, Inc.

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Ike Sherlock joined Air Van in 2022 as President and CEO. Under his leadership, the company has experienced significant growth and innovation, strengthening its position in the logistics and transportation industry. His focus on operational efficiency, customer satisfaction, and technology-driven solutions has helped differentiate Air Van in a competitive market.

Ike is also deeply committed to community engagement, actively supporting local initiatives that enhance quality of life across Jacksonville. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Troy University.



Jay Cunio

AIA, CCIM, Chief Development Officer
Jacksonville Aviation Authority

[LinkedIn](#)

Jay Cunio joined the Jacksonville Aviation Authority in 2012 and has held the role of Chief Development Officer the past 5 years. With over 30 years of experience in real estate, architecture and construction, Jay brings a diverse background and perspective to JAA's business development efforts. JAA's airport system serves the Northeast Florida region and includes Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), Cecil Airport (VQQ), Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport (CRG) and Herlong Recreational Airport (HEG).

Before joining the Authority, Jay served 14 years as President of Greystone Properties, a real estate management and brokerage company in Richmond, VA and 4 years as Vice President of Business Development, Dana B. Kenyon Company, a construction and development firm in Jacksonville, FL. Jay holds an MBA from Virginia Commonwealth University in Real Estate and a Bachelor degree in Architecture from Virginia Tech, and is an active member of CCIM, the Urban Land Institute and AIA.



Jeff Piela

Chief Executive Officer
Centurion Worldwide

[LinkedIn](#)

Jeff Piela is a growth-oriented executive with more than 15 years in global logistics and freight forwarding, specializing in the Trans-Pacific trade lane. As CEO of a boutique NVOCC, he leads tailored, end-to-end solutions across retail, industrial, and automotive sectors, driving revenue growth and operational excellence. Jeff is a respected resource in global logistics, bringing deep knowledge and experience working with multinational consumer brands and their complex supply chains. Previously, he held senior leadership roles at Kuehne + Nagel, Panalpina, and JAS Worldwide, advancing commercial strategy and strengthening global client partnerships. Jeff is known for aligning execution with strategy and moderating insightful industry discussions. He resides in St. Petersburg, FL with his husband, Mike, and their Black Lab, Bucky.



Jesse Kreinbrink

Vice President of Supply Chain
Rooms To Go Furniture, Inc.

[LinkedIn](#)

Jesse Kreinbrink has been driving supply chain best practices and guiding principles with over 25 years of experience across retail, defense, and telecom industries. He currently manages the supply chain operations within Rooms To Go Furniture, Inc., focusing on improving supply chain execution strategies and continuous improvement methodology that reduce costs and eliminate waste. Earlier in his career, Jesse served as Manager of Business Operations at Motorola, contributing to telecommunications operations.

Jesse holds a MBA from Regis University and a Bachelor of Science from Bowling Green State University, demonstrating applied knowledge of business principles and supply chain methodologies.



John Hahn

Regional Sr. Director
Saddle Creek Transportation Services

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John Hahn is Regional Senior Director at Saddle Creek Transportation Services, bringing more than two decades of experience in transportation and logistics operations. He has held leadership roles across terminal management, logistics management, and operations, building deep expertise in fleet operations, supply chain execution, and customer-focused transportation solutions.

Since joining Saddle Creek in 2006, John has played a key role in driving operational performance and supporting the company's growth across regional and national markets. A Certified Transportation Broker (CTB), he is known for his hands-on leadership style, strong industry knowledge, and commitment to delivering reliable, result-driven logistics solutions.



Joseph Morris

Chief Executive Officer
Port Everglades

[Bio](#)

Joseph Morris is CEO and Port Director of Port Everglades, one of South Florida's leading economic engines, generating over \$28 billion annually and supporting more than 12,000 jobs. He oversees a staff of 260 managing cargo, cruise, and petroleum operations while leading updates to the port's 20-Year Master/Vision Plan and harbor deepening project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Prior to joining Port Everglades in 2024, he held senior roles in container shipping and marine terminals, most recently as Port Director of the Massachusetts Port Authority. He also serves as Board Chairman for the Seaports of the Americas Foundation.



Kevin Carr

Founder / Chief Executive Officer
FloridaMakes

[Bio](#)

Kevin Carr is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of FloridaMakes, a statewide public-private partnership dedicated to strengthening Florida's manufacturing economy. Since launching the organization in 2015, he has led efforts to support small and medium-sized manufacturers through innovation and operational excellence, driving high-wage, high-skill job growth across the State.

Prior to FloridaMakes, Kevin served more than 25 years in technology management roles with the U.S. Navy and as a Senior Executive at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. He serves on the Florida Chamber Foundation Board of Trustees.



Laura DiBella

Chairman

Federal Maritime Commission

[Bio](#)

Laura DiBella currently serves as Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission, following her nomination by President Donald Trump and swearing-in on January 6, 2026. Prior to joining Adams and Reese, Laura was the President of Business Development at FloridaCommerce and the first female Secretary of Commerce at Enterprise Florida, gaining extensive knowledge of Florida's overall economy and startup ecosystems. She also served as Executive Director of the Florida Harbor Pilots Association; Port Director of the Port of Fernandina Ocean Highway and Port Authority; and Executive Director of the Nassau County Economic Development Board.

Chairman DiBella's maritime leadership experience, particularly her role as Port Director of the Port of Fernandina, served as a catalyst for her federal appointment and led to being named the first Executive Director of the Florida Harbor Pilots Association in 2019. This progression positioned her at the intersection of port operations, maritime policy, and economic development.

Chairman DiBella earned her Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management with a concentration in Business Administration and Management from the University of Florida.



Linda Carrion

Founder / Owner, Operator

Carry-on Transportation Solutions

[LinkedIn](#)

Linda Carrion is founder and owner of Carry-on Transportation Solutions, launched in 2022 with a vision grounded in integrity, growth, and service. With more than 18 years of experience in transportation and logistics, she has built a strong reputation for leadership in operations, dispatch, business development, and strategic relationship management. Under her leadership, the company has become a trusted partner for owner-operators, carriers and clients across the industry.

Linda is also a dedicated advocate for the transportation, logistics, and maritime sectors. She is serving her third term as President of the Propeller Club – Port of Jacksonville,

where she supports industry collaboration, workforce development, and community engagement. She is actively involved with TALON and regional mentorship initiatives and has been recognized as a 2025 *Jacksonville Business Journal* 40 Under 40 honoree and a 2026 Women of Influence honoree.



Marcus Menish

Head of Airport Affairs and Capital Projects

Amazon Global Air

[LinkedIn](#)

Marcus Menish is Head of Airport Affairs for Amazon Global Air, where he leads strategic engagement with airports and directs capital and ground infrastructure development supporting Amazon Air's rapidly expanding global network. He has guided multi-million-dollar cargo facility projects, negotiated complex airport agreements, and built public-private partnerships that unlock new airport revenue and investment opportunities.

With over 20 years in aviation, logistics, and real estate, Marcus focuses on aligning infrastructure programs with long-term economic value and operational scale, helping airports position air cargo as a catalyst for growth, sustainability, and competitive advantage within the broader aviation ecosystem.



Mark Baxa

President & Chief Executive Officer

Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Int'l (CSCMP)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Bio](#)

Mark Baxa is President and CEO, Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, where he leads initiatives to strengthen global supply chain capability, sustainability, and professional development. With decades of experience, he has served CSCMP in key leadership roles, including Board Chair and Roundtable leader, and guided the organization through post-COVID challenges as interim CEO, expanding its global presence.

He is committed to advancing logistics, transportation, and trade knowledge, thus ensuring supply chain professionals are equipped to build resilient, efficient, and sustainable systems for the future.



Mark Szakonyi

Executive Editor

The Journal of Commerce by S&P

[Bio](#)

Mark Szakonyi is Executive Editor of The *Journal of Commerce*, where he leads a global editorial team delivering data-driven intelligence and analysis on container shipping, transportation markets, and international trade. Since joining the publication in 2011, he has held multiple leadership roles and now oversees a wide range of editorial content, including special reports, market analysis, and industry events.

A respected voice in global logistics, Mark's insights on ocean shipping, port performance, and supply chain strategy are frequently cited by major media outlets including BBC, Bloomberg, The Economist, NPR, and USA Today. Based in Washington, D.C., he brings a strong background in journalism and deep expertise covering transportation policy and global trade trends.



Matt Chestnut, CEcD

Vice President of Business Development

Space Florida

[LinkedIn](#)

Matt Chestnut, CEcD, is Vice President of Business Development at Space Florida, where he has spent more than seven years advancing initiatives that support aerospace growth, advanced manufacturing, and high-value job creation across the State. He works closely with industry partners to attract and expand investment in Florida's space and technology sectors.

Prior to joining Space Florida, Matt held key roles with Team Volusia Economic Development Corporation and served as Economic Development Director for the City of Titusville. He also serves on the Stakeholder Advisory Board for the Florida Semiconductor Engine. Matt holds a Bachelor of Science in Government from Northwest Missouri State University and is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD).



Rhonda Socol

Director of Logistics

CITY Furniture

Rhonda is Director of Logistics at CITY Furniture, where she has dedicated more than 30 years to advancing the company’s supply chain and logistics operations. In her role, she oversees the selection, negotiation, and management of ocean freight contracts and third-party logistics providers (3PLs), ensuring efficient, cost-effective movement of goods across global markets.

Recognized for both operational excellence and sustainability leadership, Rhonda was named CITY Green Leader of the Year in 2024. She holds a degree from the University of Delaware and is widely respected for her expertise in ocean freight strategy, supplier partnerships, and building resilient, environmentally responsible supply chains.



Robert “Bob” Majka

Executive Director

Port Panama City

[LinkedIn](#)

[Bio](#)

Robert J. Majka is an accomplished public-sector executive and strategic leader with extensive experience managing complex governmental organizations, infrastructure systems, and economic development initiatives. He has overseen multi-division operations spanning finance, transportation systems, capital project delivery, regulatory compliance, and workforce management. He is known for aligning policy objectives with market-driven outcomes while maintaining strong fiscal stewardship.

A key strength of his leadership is his ability to engage effectively with global stakeholders, including port authorities, logistics operators, industrial developers, and government agencies. With a solid understanding of supply chain integration, port operations, and industrial development, he is well-positioned to support maritime and advanced manufacturing industries.



Robert Peek

Chief Commercial Officer
JAXPORT

[Bio](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Robert Peek is Chief Commercial Officer for JAXPORT, where he leads marketing and sales initiatives to attract and retain cargo business while supporting regional economic development across Northeast Florida. He has been with JAXPORT since 1995, serving in multiple leadership roles before being named Chief Commercial Officer in 2022.

Robert holds a Bachelor degree from Colorado State University and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Florida, along with a Certification in Transportation and Logistics (CTL). He is actively engaged in regional leadership, serving on boards and organizations that support economic development and international trade.



Soufyane Meftah

Solution Architect - Port Solutions
Westinghouse Air Brake Technologies (Wabtec)

[LinkedIn](#)

Soufyane Meftah is a Solution Architect for Port Solutions at Wabtec Corporation, where he partners globally to design innovative solutions for complex supply chain challenges. With over 26 years at Wabtec and GE Transportation, he has held leadership roles in commercial operations, product management, and strategic planning, with a focus on industrial software, IoT, and logistics technologies.

Fluent in three languages, Soufyane has worked across Europe, Australia, Sub-Saharan Africa, India, Pakistan, and the Middle East, bringing a strong global perspective. He holds an MBA from the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor from Montana State University–Northern. A Six Sigma Black Belt, he is known for his disciplined, customer-focused approach both professionally and as a long-distance runner.



Stefanie Majoras

Vice President, Global Merchandise Sourcing and Supply Chain Optimization
The Walt Disney Company

[LinkedIn](#)

Stefanie Majoras is a senior global executive recognized for leading large-scale supply chain optimization and enterprise transformation across complex, multi-billion dollar consumer businesses.

She serves as Vice President of Global Merchandise Sourcing and Supply Chain Optimization at The Walt Disney Company, where she leads a global organization responsible for end-to-end product development, sourcing, and supply chain strategy across all categories and regions. In this role, Stefanie is driving the modernization and optimization of Disney’s merchandising supply chain, integrating sourcing, product development, supplier strategy, logistics, and quality into a more agile, resilient, and intelligence-driven operating model.

She oversees a broad global portfolio including sourcing and product development, supplier strategy and diversification, supply chain and packaging engineering, cost optimization, quality, and materials innovation: operating as a tightly connected system focused on efficiency, resilience, and continuous improvement across the value chain.



Steven Carnovale, PhD

Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management
College of Business, Florida Atlantic University

[Bio](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

Steven Carnovale, PhD, is Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management at the College of Business at Florida Atlantic University and former Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Purchasing and Supply Management*. Prior to joining FAU, he held faculty roles at the Rochester Institute of Technology and Portland State University, where he served as Nike Professor of Supply Chain Management. He is a supply chain strategist specializing in interfirm networks, risk management, and global sourcing and production networks, and currently serves as an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Supply Chain Management*.

Dr. Carnovale earned his Bachelor of Science and PhD from Rutgers University, focusing on Supply Chain Management and Marketing Sciences.