



American
Petroleum
Institute

Preliminary Program

2026 API Offshore Safe Lifting Conference & Expo Program

September 22-23, 2026 | Houston, Texas, USA | www.api.org/offshore

Agenda subject to change - Draft Agenda April 30, 2026

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

- 7:00 am – 8:00 am **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 am – 8:15 am **Welcome: Opening Remarks and Safety Moment**
2026 Conference Co-Chairs:
- **Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services**
 - **John Martines, Shell**
- 8:15 am – 9:00 am **Keynote – Paul Danos, CEO of Danos**
- 9:00 am – 9:50 am **SESSION 1: Opening Remarks from Marine Minerals Administration and United States Coast Guard**
Moderators: John Martines, Shell; Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services
- 9:50 am – 10:10 am **Morning Refreshment Break – Parking Lot Presentation of Drone Tech**
- 10:10 am – 11:00 am **SESSION 2: MMA Lifting Incident Data Review**
Moderators: Julia FitzGerald Center for Offshore Safety, Brandon Verret, Altrad, Domingo Elizondo, Gulf Crane Services
Speakers: COS Lifting Committee reviewers
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm **SESSION 3: Lift Planning – Lifting Awareness Progress**
Moderators: Mark Alexander & Wally Pellegrin
- Adrian Amadeo, Skill Train, LLC: "Adult Learning Methodology: Applications for Teaching and Applying Load Chart Data"
 - Clay Kirby, Shell: "Structural Connector 7 (SC7) Main Jack Replacement Project"
 - Malcolm Findlay, Transocean: "Beyond the License: A Modern Competency Assurance Model for Offshore Crane Operators"
- 12:00 pm – 1:10 pm **Lunch and Versabar Presentation**
- 1:10 pm – 2:15 pm **SESSION 4: Inspection and Maintenance**
Moderators: Travis Dupre, TOS Global, and Donny Land, bp
- Darius Shad, Techcrane International, LLC: "To Predict is to Prevent"
 - Sean Hogue, Baker Marine Solutions: "Heavy Lifts - The Marine Warranty Surveyor's Perspective"
 - Brooke Marsch and Jonathan Ibarra, Wood: "Bridging the Gap Between Lifting Equipment and Asset Integrity"
 - Clint Ross, Arrowhead Winch: "Reducing Lifting Incidents by Addressing Potential Hoist Failure Points"



2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

SESSION 5: TBD

Moderator: Mike Terrell

3:30 pm – 3:50 pm

Afternoon Refreshment Break (Versabar Presentation)

3:50 pm – 4:45 pm

SESSION 6: Lifting in Decommissioning

Moderators: Domingo Elizondo and Barrett Jones, Gulf Crane Services

- **Presentation on rental crane**
- Raymond Hywel and Anak Lemin, Thunder Cranes Sdn Bhd: "Using Portable Modular Crane to Optimize Operation... Case Study in Sarawak Waters".

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Wrap Up of Day One

2026 Conference Co-Chairs:

John Martines, Shell

Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Welcome Reception and Networking

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

8:00 am – 8:15 am

Opening Remarks and Safety Moment

Moderators: John Martines, Shell; Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services

8:15 am – 9:00 am

Session Keynote: MMA Director / Dr. Khan OESI

9:00 am – 9:50 am

SESSION 7: Research and New Technology

Moderators: Richard Turner, CAN USA; Weihang Zhu, University of Houston

- Wassil Bouali, RiConnect: "Building the Digital Backbone of Offshore Lifting Safety: Data, Inspection, and AI Readiness".
- Roy Thomas, ABS: "Advances in Offshore Crane Inspection and Condition Assessment".
- Richard Turner, CAN USA

9:50 am – 10:10 am

Morning Refreshment Break

10:10 am – 11:00 am

SESSION 8: AI Session

Moderators: Richard Turner, CAN USA; Joe Angeron, Gulf Crane Services

- Weihang Zhu, University of Houston: "An AI-Augmented Multimodal Interview System for Lifting Safety Culture Assessment"
- Artem Kuchukov, KEWAZO: "AI-Powered Lifting Robots: How Data-Driven Material Handling Improves Safety and Replaces Cranes"
- Justin McCoy, Scope Computer Vision Technologies: "Advancing Crane Rope Integrity: Computer Vision-Based Rope Inspection for Safer Lifting Operations"



11:00 am – 12:00 pm

SESSION 9: Standards Updates

Moderator: Joe Angeron and Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services

- Updates from Document Chairs
- 2CIM - Chair
- 22A - Chair
- 2CCU – Chair
- Updates on plans for 2C and 2D
- Update on Documents by Reference Processes

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

SESSION 10: Ropes and Rigging

Moderators: Max Supkis, Seatrax; Noah Smithwick, Smithwick Engineering

- Tad Dunville, Water Weights: "Wire Rope Failures – Making the Riskiest Part of Your Crane Productive"
- Joost Eertman, Ropeblock B.V.: "The Science on Cabling"
- Tuffleberger
- KitoCrosby: "From API Requirements to Offshore Reality: Design and Performance of Sheaves & Blocks in Heavy Lifting Operations"

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

SESSION 11: Safety First, Safety Always – Lessons, Learnings and Improvement

Moderators: Sheila Deroche, Danos; Brandon Verret, Gulf Crane Services

- Naomi J. Hardy, Dunamis Transition Solutions: "The Fatigue Domino Effect: How Mental Strain Impacts Offshore Safety and Decision Making". Confirmed
- Jim Spigener, DEKRA North America: "Built for Certainty: Driving Reliable Offshore Lifting Behaviors"
- Mitchell Stoller, Marex: "Ergonomics: Reducing Injuries in the Maritime Industry"
- Godfrey Mpyangu, Joint Medical Store: "Enhancing Offshore Lifting Safety Through Risk-Based Practices and Digitalization"

3:30 pm – 3:50 pm

Afternoon Refreshment Break

3:50 pm – 4:45 pm

SESSION 12: Hearing from Regulators – MMA and USCG Insights for 2026 Speakers

Moderators: Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services; John Martines, Shell

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Wrap Up of Day Two

2026 Conference Co-Chairs:

John Martines, Shell

Brandon Bollinger, Gulf Crane Services

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Closing Reception and Networking