



Phyllis Saathoff

Executive Director/CEO

Phyllis Saathoff is an accomplished executive with over 30 years of service in the port industry. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, is a certified public accountant and a certified Professional Port Manager®.

Phyllis began her maritime career at Port Freeport in 1992 serving as Managing Director and Interim Executive Port Director/CEO before joining the Port of Houston Authority executive team in October 2012. Phyllis returned to Port Freeport in April 2016 as the Chief Executive Officer.

Under her leadership, Port Freeport successfully secured federal funding and a 2020 “new start” designation from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for commencement of construction to deepen the Freeport Harbor Channel to 56 feet and commenced dredging of the first reach in 2021. Phyllis was also instrumental in initiating the development and financing of the Port’s container terminal and bringing new business and investment to the Port.

Phyllis currently serves on the Board for the American Association of Port Authorities and is a member and past chair of the Port Authority Advisory Committee to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Past President of Texas Ports Association. Locally, she is a member of the Brazoria County Petrochemical Council. Phyllis was presented the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award by the University of Houston-Clear Lake (UHCL), received the 2019 Stephen F. Austin Leadership Award from the Brazoria County Historical Museum and was presented the 2023 Russell H. Perry Award by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).