

CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY IN CANADIAN AND US MARITIME PORTS



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This paper examines the current state of corporate sustainability in maritime ports in Canada and the US. The research conducted primarily examines the motivations, implementation, scope, and stakeholders associated with sustainability initiatives in these regions.

APPROACH:

Research was conducted via an anonymous online questionnaire that surveyed ports in Canada and the US associated with the Association of Canadian Port Authorities (ACPA) and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA). Quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods were employed to permit a complete and synergistic understanding of responses.

MAIN FINDINGS:

- While corporate sustainability is regarded as important in the majority of ports, it is not fully integrated into strategic decision-making processes. Operations in most ports appear to be lagging behind on the adoption of clear and ambitious sustainability strategies or implementation plans.
- Clear sustainability goals that can be holistically intertwined with contemporary business practices are found to be the most likely to be successful.
- Results indicate that sustainability strategies have improved stakeholder relations in ports, mainly with government/policy makers, customers, local communities, and industry associations.