

Press Release

Nearly 300 delegates, representing 18 countries worldwide, attend second edition of Seagriculture USA, held in Portland, Maine

The second edition of Seagriculture USA 2023, a prominent conference in the seaweed industry, took place from September 6-7. Hosted in the picturesque city of Portland, Maine, the event gathered 293 participants from 185 companies and 18 countries for two days of insightful discussions, knowledge exchange, and networking.

This year's conference was all about chances and changes in the seaweed industry and spotlighted two key themes: The expansion of seaweed investments and scaling up the industry responsibly, and the invaluable perspectives of indigenous communities engaged in seaweed activities. Respected experts shared their views and findings during seven sessions. Audience interaction played a key role as attendees posed questions, creating a dynamic and interactive environment that incorporated a spirit of open communication. This emphasis on dialogue contributed to the conference's success in creating a truly communicative and collaborative environment.

Seagriculture USA 2023 successfully converged a broad spectrum of participants, including seaweed cultivators, processors, distributors, technology providers, investors, academic institutions, research organizations, and government agencies. The conference aims to foster discourse, enabling a comprehensive understanding of the industry's potential and challenges.

An outstanding feature of Seagriculture USA 2023 was the trade show showcasing 19 exhibitors, each representing prominent enterprises contributing to the development of the seaweed industry and local Maine businesses. The dynamic trade show served as a platform, fostering international expansion opportunities and allowing delegates to stay informed about the most recent developments in the seaweed field.

Distinguished by a focus on networking, this year's Seagriculture introduced an array of innovative formats. A resounding success among these initiatives was the Cocktail Reception which was taking place at the Portland Museum of Art. As a fitting end to an eventful first day, this reception provided an informal and relaxed setting for delegates to unwind, connect, and engage in meaningful interactions.

A great conclusion of the conference was the speech by Julie Decker, Executive Director of Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation and a video message of Mike Dunleavy, the governor of Alaska. They extended an invitation to all attendees to visit Ketchikan, Alaska for Seagriculture USA 2024. Alaska's breathtaking natural landscapes with its extensive coastlines and pristine marine environments offer a unique backdrop for the conference.

Following this important address, delegates embraced the opportunity to participate in two exciting tours each exploring Portland and its coastal charm. Participants had the opportunity to join the Waterfront Tour to learn more about Portland's working waterfront or a boat tour to witness beautiful Casco Bay. The grand finale was held in a beautiful venue – the Hús, a hubspot for those active in the Blue Economy. Here participants gathered to discuss the ideas and accomplishments of the conference, sharing their experiences with its scenic surroundings.

Seagriculture events in 2024:

- Seagriculture EU, 18 20 June 2024, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands
- Seagriculture USA, 11 12 September 2024, Ketchikan, Alaska

More information

For more information on the conference, the organizers, pictures, contact details of speakers for interviews, applications for press passes and barter deals, refer to www.seagriculture.usa or contact us info@dlg-benelux.com.

