

North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance Charter

I. Introduction and Statement of Purpose

The North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance is a voluntary organization of marine manufacturers, workforce development boards and academic institutions with access to the Great Lakes or otherwise called, “North Coast.”

Vision: “North Coast region marine manufacturers are recognized the world over for the unparalleled design, efficient production, and on-time delivery of superior quality marine craft, from boats to yachts to ships. We take tremendous pride in our craftsmanship and it shows.”

Mission: Our mission is to collaboratively promote, develop, and grow the marine manufacturing industry in the North Coast region. **Modified on 8/21/2012.**

Strategies:

- To attract, develop and retain the workforce sufficient to meet the current and future needs of the Alliance
- Promote a positive industry image
- Promote North Coast Marine Manufacturing industry through collective marketing and brand development
- Work cooperatively to enhance and promote best practices and strengthen and leverage supply chain

The Alliance is not organized for pecuniary profit and no part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any member or individual.

II. Requirements for Membership

Alliance members attest to meeting the following requirements:

1. A marine manufacturer located within access to the North Coast.
2. An educational Institution that currently supports the marine educational process and is sponsored by an Alliance marine manufacturer.
3. Commitment to active participation and contribution to North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance activities, as determined by the Steering Committee.
4. Pay annual dues to support the organization.
5. Sign a confidentiality Agreement appropriate to the Alliance.
6. Must be approved by the Steering Committee.

Associate Membership – Available to companies who are not a builder of a ship, yacht or boat that rely on a successful manufacturing sector, including service providers, suppliers, financial organizations, insurers, transporters, law firms, construction, third-party logistics, and distributors as examples. There is an annual dues fee to support the organization. Associate members will have an opportunity to participate in an annual supplier event and have their logo listed on the Alliance’s website. *All Associate members must be approved by Steering committee.*

Affiliate Membership – Available to non-profit organizations interested in promoting marine manufacturing in the North Coast, including government, chambers of commerce, workforce development boards, and economic development. There are no dues required for this membership. *All Affiliate members must be approved by Steering committee.*

Confidentiality and Non Disclosure agreement – all members of the organization must agree to the following terms in order to be a member of the organization:

Marine manufacturers may be furnishing information including but not limited to technical and business information at Alliance meetings and other communications that may be proprietary ideas, patentable ideas, copyrights and/or trade secrets, now existing or hereafter developed, as well as designs, fabrication, engineering, products, services, software, schematics, research and development, production, costs, clients, marketing, ad vendors, regardless of whether information is designated as “Confidential Information” at the time of discourse;

It is requested that all members along with their engineers, designers, affiliates or other representatives in this matter treat any information learned through Alliance membership with confidentiality. This does not include information that is generally available to the public or information that is shared on a non-confidential basis from a source other than the marine manufacturer or its advisers, provided that such source is not bound by a confidentiality agreement with the benefit of the marine manufacturer.

On behalf of themselves and their affiliates, members agree that the material being used is solely for the purpose of providing information for the organization and that such information will be kept confidential by themselves and their affiliates; and that such information will be used only for the purpose of use within the organization. Members further agree that without the prior express and written consent of the marine manufacturer that the information relates to, no member or its affiliates will disclose to any person any confidential information.

A Confidentiality and Non Disclosure Agreement must be signed as a condition of membership. In addition there may be some instances where members will need to sign member to member non disclosure agreements.

III. Alliance Governance

The initial alliance steering committee will consist of voluntary members of each of the appropriate marine manufacturers and educational institutions. There can be no more than one representative from any one entity. Marine manufacturers are intended to maintain majority representation on the Steering Committee.

At the beginning of each calendar year, the steering committee will vote on the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson positions. These positions are one year terms. The Vice Chairperson will be the Chairperson the following year. Chairperson positions are only open to the Marine manufacturers.

The steering committee is authorized and empowered to levy annual dues on its members and use those monies to fund the objectives and budgets of the alliance. The steering committee will oversee the overall structure, membership recruitment and organizational committees of the alliance. It also has the responsibility to report back to the full membership on how goals and objectives were met at an annual meeting for the membership. All items that are voted upon by the steering committee will be passed through majority vote of all present members. There is no more than one vote per entity.

All steering committee meetings are open to all members. Although the meetings are open to the general membership, steering committee members are the only participants allowed to vote and decide on matters of interest.

Organizational Committees

The steering committee may designate Organizational Committees to work on specific goals of the organization. The Organizational Committees will be assigned goals and will be expected to meet specific outcomes. All members of the alliance are encouraged to join one of the Organizational committees. An appropriate organizational chart will be maintained by the Steering Committee.

IV. Membership Dues

Membership dues will be paid on an annual basis based on the date of the initial enrollment. Dues are a fee for service. The structure is as follows:

Alliance Membership	\$500
Associate Membership	\$750

Affiliate members do not have a membership fee. Instead, they are asked to contribute with in-kind support (staffing, promotion, printing, data, etc.).

V. Funding

All revenues received for the alliance will be administered by the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. Northeast Wisconsin Technical College will not use any of these deposits without consent of the North Coast Marine Manufacturing Alliance's steering committee. The steering committee approves all bills with a signature from the Chairperson.

VI. Amendments

Amendments to the charter can be made by two-thirds majority recommendation of the alliance steering committee of those members present, subject to a time allowance for communication to those members of the Steering Committee who may be absent from the discussion.

VII. Miscellaneous

Matters arising during the conduct of business of the organization, which are not explicitly defined in this document, shall be decided by the Steering Committee with reference to the Charter. The Steering Committee shall have final authority over any and all disputes.