



**PORT NOLA**  
THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS  
**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact: Matt Gresham**  
**(504) 528-3255**

## **Port of New Orleans Sponsors Industry-Defining Agricultural Summit**

*9<sup>th</sup> Annual Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit Scheduled for October*

**NEW ORLEANS** – The Port of New Orleans, the number one port for logistics in North America, has signed on as a sponsor for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual [Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit](#), taking place here October 7-9, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans.

The *Summit* is the largest annual industry event that convenes buyers, sellers and global leaders in the oilseed, protein meals, vegetable oils and feed grains sectors, and includes discussions on the challenges and opportunities of logistics and transportation in the agriculture sector.

[Port of New Orleans](#) President and CEO Gary LaGrange will provide the welcoming remarks on the Summit's [Agribusiness Expo floor](#) on the evening of Tuesday, October 7. LaGrange will welcome the more than 600 industry stakeholders to the event that will highlight emerging trends and current views on sustainability, new processing technologies, risk management and trade financing, and global market updates in the commodity, food, biofuels and animal feed sectors.

LaGrange sets the stage for the more than 30 other [industry experts speaking](#) throughout the three-day *Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit*. Other presenters include keynote speaker Jim Borel, executive vice president of DuPont, and executives from Dow AgroSciences, INTL FCStone, SunOpta and CME. This year's *Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit*, hosted by HighQuest Group with participation from Informa Economics, also includes a new full-day [Animal Protein Seminar](#) that will provide attendees with an outlook for the cattle, hog, dairy, poultry, and egg sectors.

LaGrange has served as president and CEO of the Port of New Orleans since 2001. Under his direction, the Port has made great expansions in spite of great adversity, including being back in operation two weeks after Hurricane Katrina.

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LaGrange also serves on many boards and executive committees including the Waterways Council, Inc., the Transportation Research Board, and the Board of the Gulf Ports Association of the Americas. A past Chairman of the Board, Mr. LaGrange still serves as chairman of the American Association of Port Authorities Cruise Committee. He is also past Chairman and past President of the Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association.

He is a member of the Committee of 100 Louisiana. He serves on the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Advisory Council on Trade and Transportation Committee, and the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration's Port Subcommittee. Previously, he served as executive director of the Mississippi State Port Authority, the Port of South Louisiana, and the Port of West St. Mary.

*The **Port of New Orleans** is at the center of the world's busiest port complex—Louisiana's Lower Mississippi River. It has one of the most sophisticated gate and terminal designs in North America, with over 22 million square feet of cargo handling area and more than 6 million square feet of covered storage area. Its proximity to the American Midwest via a 14,500-mile inland waterway system makes New Orleans the port of choice for the movement of cargoes such as steel, rubber, coffee, containers and manufactured goods. [www.portno.com](http://www.portno.com)*

***HighQuest Group**, headquartered in Danvers, Mass., is a globally recognized strategic consulting and conference company that serves the agriculture, agribusiness, grains/oilseed, food, and biofuels markets. The company, founded in 2000, hosts world-renowned conferences that include the Global AgInvesting series, the Oilseed & Grain Trade Summit and the Women in Agribusiness Summit. [www.highquestgroup.com](http://www.highquestgroup.com)*

Michelle Pelletier Marshall  
HighQuest Group, +1.978.887.8800, x117  
[mmarshall@highquestpartners.com](mailto:mmarshall@highquestpartners.com)

