



The Global Women's Walk 2026 is proudly presented in partnership by the following organizations.



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Global Women's Walk 2026: A Worldwide Celebration of Women in the Marine Industry with a Purpose

Chattanooga, TN, March 30, 2026 – The marine industry is uniting for a powerful global initiative. The Global Women's Walk 2026, powered by the Soundings Trade Only Group, Metstrade, British Marine, and *Marine Industry News*, is a movement to celebrate, support, and elevate the powerhouse women shaping the marine industry. From May 11–18, 2026,

coinciding with International Women in Maritime Day, industry professionals and supporters are invited to walk 5Km (3.2 miles), wherever they are, with whomever they choose. Open to all genders, this walk promotes unity, progress, and meaningful recognition for the contributions of women driving the industry forward.

Making an Impact Beyond the Walk – Supporting at-risk girls across the globe.

The Global Women’s Walk 2026 will extend its impact beyond the industry by supporting Room to Read, a global nonprofit dedicated to literacy, learning, and gender equality. Participants will have the opportunity to donate and contribute to advancing education for young girls worldwide. Learn more and donate [here](#). In 2026, the goal is to raise \$25,000, enough to support an entire school and library. “Last year more than 1,200 women and men from five continents and 15 countries participated in the Global Women’s Walk, it was a powerful demonstration of unity and support for the women working in the marine industry. As we started planning this year, we realized that if each participant had donated \$20, we would have enough funds to support a school and library for at-risk girls. That is our goal for this year,” said Michele Goldsmith, vice president and general manager of the Soundings Trade Only Group, and founder of the Women in the Industry programs.

Share Your Walk, Inspire Others.

Participants are encouraged to share their global walk experiences on social media using **#GlobalWomensWalk2026**. These inspiring moments will be featured in *Soundings Trade Only* and *Marine Industry News*, as well as on the jumbo screen at the Women in the Marine Industry International Event at Metstrade on November 18, 2026.

“At Metstrade, we are proud to support initiatives that not only champion diversity and inclusion within the marine industry but also create meaningful impact beyond it. The Global Women’s Walk 2026 brings our global community together in a powerful way. Together we celebrate women’s contributions, amplify their impact, and inspire the next generation. It’s an inspiring example of how our industry can unite, helping create more opportunities for girls worldwide to learn, lead, and thrive.” said Tessa Meijer, Exhibition Manager of Metstrade.

"Building on the momentum of last year’s walk, the Global Women’s Walk 2026 is a powerful reminder of what our industry can achieve when we come together with purpose. It’s not only about celebrating the achievements of women across the marine sector, but also about creating lasting impact beyond it. By supporting initiatives that expand access to education for girls worldwide, we are investing in the future of our industry and our global community,” stated Lesley Robinson, CEO of British Marine.

"This initiative is about more than just taking steps, it's about driving real change, strengthening connections, and recognizing the impact of women throughout every corner of our industry," said Michele Goldsmith, vice president and general manager of the Soundings Trade Only Group and founder of the Women in the Industry programs. "I encourage everyone to join us in celebrating, supporting, and elevating the women who continue to move the marine community forward across the globe."

How to Get Involved

- ✓ Register your team or yourself, starting April 1st at www.tradeonlytoday.com/global-womens-walk-2026.
- ✓ Donate to Room to Read – Every contribution makes a difference. Help us support an entire school and library! Note that Room to Read is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Donate [here!](#)
- ✓ Walk 5Km anytime, anywhere between May 11–18, 2026 to celebrate the women shaping the marine industry.
- ✓ Share your walk – Use #GlobalWomensWalk2026 and inspire the movement worldwide.

See the Global Walk 2026 details and a message from Patricia Becker, Exhibition Manager, Metstrade and Conference Manager of the Superyacht Forum, and Michele Goldsmith in this video. Click [here](#).

For more information, to register for the walk and donate, please click [here](#) or visit www.tradeonlytoday.com/global-womens-walk-2026.

About

Metstrade

Metstrade is the world's largest trade exhibition for equipment, materials, and systems for the international leisure marine industry. RAI Convention Centre organises it in cooperation with ICOMIA (International Council of Marine Industry Associations). The event's target audience includes yacht builders, naval architects, refit yards, distributors, dealers, wholesalers, captains, marina owners, and marine equipment manufacturers worldwide. Metstrade will run from 17-19 November 2026 at RAI Convention Centre.

The Soundings Trade Only Group

The Soundings Trade Only Group is the leading North American marine business-to-business multi-media brand, with a mission to provide information to grow your business. It includes a monthly print publication, digital entities including a daily e-newsletter, web, and social media sites, and marine industry events. *Soundings Trade Only* offers the latest business news, and information about products, trends, statistics, management, and marketing insights, designed to reflect,

inform, and inspire the marine industry. It is part of Firecrown Media, a global media platform for affluent enthusiasts and includes both consumer and trade marine titles. For more information, about the Soundings Trade Only Group, please visit www.tradeonlytoday.com, for your free subscription please visit www.tradeonlytoday.com/subscribe.

British Marine

British Marine (the trading name of British Marine Federation Limited) is the trade association for the UK leisure, superyacht, and small commercial marine industry. It has some 1.300 members drawn from both seagoing and inland sectors and represents an industry which employs more than 38,000 people in the UK.

British Marine also owns and operates the Southampton International Boat Show (18-27 September 2026) and London Afloat (9-14 April 2025). For more information about the work of British Marine and how to join, please visit the website: www.britishmarine.co.uk, or follow British Marine on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

Marine Industry News

Marine Industry News is an independent trade publication covering the latest leisure marine, superyacht, and commercial marine news from across the globe. *MIN* Aims to keep the marine industry engaged and informed through its free and accessible content via its website, printed publication, email newsletter, and social channels. *Marine Industry News* reports on the top stories, business news, new products, and events worldwide and its online news is translatable into ten different languages. For more information, please visit <https://marineindustrynews.co.uk/>