

PORTS System for Jacksonville

Woods Hole Group, USA, will be working with the Jacksonville Marine Transportation Exchange (JMTX) for the installation, operations, and maintenance of a large-scale Physical Oceanographic Real Time System (PORTS) in Jacksonville, Florida. NOAA PORTS is a network of sensors in ports and harbours providing access to information that improves maritime commerce and safety.

Upon completion, JXPORTS networks will be the second largest [PORTS](#) installation in the country. It will provide invaluable information to the users of St. John's River, including the shipping industry, tug services, military personnel, cruise ships, commercial and recreational fisherman, and academic institutions. The system will provide access to real-time quality controlled data (every 6 minutes) that will facilitate safe navigation, and will also promote greater understanding of the waterway system and its environment for research and engineering purposes. With knowledge of water depths, current speeds and direction, the distance from the water surface to overhead bridge superstructure, and other information, ship pilots can navigate safely and more efficiently. The system is intended to reduce the risk of accident and improve maritime commerce.

Woods Hole Group is a port systems management expert, currently maintaining more than eighty PORTS stations along the East Coast and Gulf of Mexico. The JXPORTS project includes installation, commissioning and management of the system for three years. Woods Hole Group, which has offices world-wide, has set up an office in Jacksonville staffed with personnel proficient with the operation and troubleshooting of the complex sensors that will be incorporated in the JXPORTS network.

<https://www.hydro-international.com/content/article/ports-system-for-jacksonville>
