



Maritime Blue Ventures Launches 2025 Cohorts for Early-stage Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Meet the twelve startups accepted to Blue Ventures programs, including its flagship accelerator and two regional incubators.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON (March 28, 2025) -- Washington Maritime Blue announces the launch of its 2025 Blue Ventures programs including cohorts for its flagship Blue Innovation Accelerator and regional incubators in Seattle and Tacoma. These three programs support founders and entrepreneurs at all stages of development, from ideation to investable venture-scale startups.

In partnership with [Meliorate Partners](#), the Maritime Blue Innovation Accelerator is a four-month, mentor-driven program that brings together founders from Washington, the broader region, and beyond to gain critical skills, connect with key resources, and scale their ocean-based innovations.

"We're thrilled to welcome this next cohort into our growing network of trailblazing alumni, all working to tackle the most pressing challenges in the ocean and maritime industries," said Joshua Berger, President and CEO of Maritime Blue. "These startups are ready for venture capital investment and poised to make significant economic, environmental, and community impacts. To support them, we've designed the Accelerator to provide best-in-class programming, mentorship, and access to our extensive industry cluster—including leading businesses, research institutions, public agencies, and community organizations—along with a clear pathway to capital investment."

Throughout the program, participating startups will engage in global networking events, targeted mentorship, and specialized programming covering business development, messaging and communications, legal frameworks, investment strategies, financing, and growth opportunities. They will gain direct access to Washington Maritime Blue's network of industry leaders, ocean experts, and startup advisors, ensuring they receive world-class guidance and support.

In addition to mentorship and industry connections, each participating startup will receive a \$100,000 investment from Meliorate Partners, an early-stage venture capital firm collaborating closely with Maritime Blue.

"Meliorate Partners is committed to re-imagining economic sectors, investing in better, cheaper, faster innovations that are also better for the environment," said Brock Mansfield, Managing Partner at Meliorate Partners. "For the Maritime Sector, we partnered with Maritime Blue because of their unmatched ecosystem of support. Their accelerator program is truly differentiated, allowing startups to access the complete value chain—from customers and technology providers to regulators and investors—all in one place."

With the Fifth Wave, Washington Maritime Blue and Meliorate Partners continue their mission to accelerate innovation, sustainability, and investment in the blue economy, helping shape the future of the maritime industry.

The companies joining the Accelerator include:



[Cellulotech Inc.](#) is on a mission to create a new world of abundant and competitive biomaterials by "attaching" bio-sourced molecules around cellulose fibers to make them insensitive to water, and more.



[Dolphin Labs](#) is solving the challenge of limited power availability in the ocean with remote, persistent wave power, enabling connectivity & charging for the blue economy.



[E-LIXR](#) is building an all-Electric Water Taxi Network, whose platform brings together not only the operators, but also the e-vessel OEMs, charging installers, ride-share apps, 3rd party finance companies, and much more to empower a system that cannot otherwise work in silos.



[MarineSitu](#) cuts environmental monitoring costs in half by helping marine industries reliably see and hear underwater using affordable and proven integrated instrumentation systems: we combine our field tested hardware of cameras, sonar, and other sensors with streamlined software powered by advanced data architecture and machine learning automation.

Additionally, Maritime Blue has launched the 2025 cohorts for its regional incubators in Seattle and Tacoma. The free program is housed in the Blue Hub, located at the Port of Seattle's Fishermen's Terminal and the City of Tacoma's Center for Urban Waters, helping founders take their concept and early-stage companies to the next level.

"Our incubator programs support the larger hub-and-spoke Blue Ventures model. Our goal is to support founders at multiple points along their journey so that we have a complete innovation ecosystem from ideation, to commercialization, to accessing new markets," says Joshua Berger, Maritime Blue's President and CEO. "These eight companies are the perfect example of that spectrum, and we're excited to see how they, and this program, grow."

Over 10 months, the selected startups will receive a rent-free collaborative working space. In addition to accessing the full suite of Washington Maritime Blue cluster members, stakeholders, and partners. The startups receive unique programming and the opportunity to connect with a global network of maritime and ocean economy mentors, including direct coaching from an Executive-in-Residence.

"I'm incredibly excited to step into the role of EIR for Washington Maritime Blue. I've watched this organization grow from the early days of mapping out what an innovation ecosystem for Washington State could look like within the state government, to spinning out on their own, to now

being recognized as a leading cluster globally focused on the blue economy," says Caitlin Hardy from Ness Sea Consulting. "Watching this ecosystem develop has been a passion of mine for years, and I can't wait to play a small part in working with the next cohort of innovators who will help shape our industry, especially in my home state of Washington."

The companies joining the Seattle Incubator include:



[OCTO](#) connects ocean professionals to the knowledge and networks they need, with over 100,000 customers in 120 countries. (This application to the Seattle Maritime Incubator is for a new project that will spin off from OCTO as its own venture.)



[RAMP Robotics](#) is driving the blue economy forward with low-cost, high-strength anchoring solutions, enabling sustainable growth for renewable energy and marine infrastructure on any seabed.



[Pacific Kelp Company](#) cultivates and refines kelp into value-added ingredients and products for a healthier and more sustainable planet.



PRAXSEAS is a closed-loop recycling and manufacturing enterprise, creating profit from recycled and new materials and products, while focusing on marine ecosystem restoration, trade support, and prevention of pollution and collision in our waterways and oceans, creating Pacific Northwest area jobs and ultimately nationwide jobs and revenue.



[Tini Scientific](#) is creating a new and transformative data network and pipeline using the sensors embedded in smartwatches for a massive, hyperlocal coastal ocean database to evaluate and scale emerging technologies.

The companies joining the Tacoma Incubator include:



Aeronautica is building both hardware and software for marine surface object mapping to support environmental and port security solutions.



[Corumat](#) has developed a profitable pathway to decarbonize the packaging and waste industry and enable sustainable fuels.



[Fairlead Marine](#) is revolutionizing maritime manufacturing with high-performance natural fiber composites and advanced fabrication techniques for a viable, decarbonized ocean future.

[You can learn more about the Maritime Blue Ventures programs on our website.](#)

We welcome supporters of the startup community and future mentors to meet with the founders in the Incubators and other Blue Ventures programs. A Meet & Greet will be held on April 15, 2025 at the Blue Hub at Fishermen's Terminal in Seattle, WA. [Register](#).

This year's Annual Blue Ventures Showcase will take place on May 29, 2025 featuring startups from the Accelerator, Seattle and Tacoma Incubators, and One Ocean international program for later-stage companies seeking access to the U.S. market. For more information on the extent of the Blue Ventures programs and links to events, visit the [Washington Maritime Blue website](#).

Stay up to date on Maritime Blue news on [LinkedIn](#).

About Maritime Blue

Maritime Blue is a strategic alliance propelling the Pacific Northwest toward global leadership in ocean-based innovation. We foster collaboration among industry, government, academia, communities, and investors to create sustainable maritime and ocean industries. We empower our region to thrive in the Blue Economy by accelerating innovation and entrepreneurship, centering equity, addressing climate change, restoring marine ecosystems, and building a diverse workforce. Strategic focus areas include maritime decarbonization, renewable ocean energy, sustainable fisheries and seafood, healthy ocean ecosystems, and digital solutions.

Media Contact: Bjorn Thorpe: bjorn@maritimeblue.org

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