

**Rob Whitney**  
**American Bureau of Shipping**

Robert “Rob” Whitney, Jr. currently represents the American Bureau of Shipping as its Manager of Government Affairs in Washington, D.C. He brings a wealth of public policy, government affairs and public relations experience to this position.

Mr. Whitney is responsible for the development and execution of a wide-ranging global government outreach programs for ABS. His focus includes representing the organization before the U.S. Congress on actions that could impact the role of the class society in the maritime sector, helping to ensure the existence of safe and reliable vessels and maritime platforms.

During his tenure with ABS, Mr. Whitney has successfully advocated for key legislative proposals impacting offshore energy production, government vessel construction and foreign reciprocity issues. He also serves as a key advisor on policies related to the implementation of the European Union Mutual Recognition requirements for Recognized Organizations.

Prior to joining ABS, Mr. Whitney served as the Senior Policy Advisor to the Maritime Administrator at the Department of Transportation. In this Presidentially appointed position, Mr. Whitney contributed to several high-level policy decisions on issues impacting foreign affairs, cabotage, piracy, energy, maritime workforce education, marine highways, the environment and intermodal systems development.

Mr. Whitney’s professional experience also includes working on political campaigns across the United States. Most notably, Mr. Whitney served in senior campaign roles for the election of Congressman Gus Bilirakis (FL-9) and Congressman Rob Simmons (CT-2)

Mr. Whitney is a graduate of Christopher Newport University in with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science concentrating on International Relations and is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Corporate Communications.