

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

May 20, 2024

The *Illinois International Business Calendar* is published by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago (ITA/GC). The *Calendar* is also available on our website: www.itagc.org. It is published every Friday, and available at no charge.

Inclusion Policy: As a public service to the international business community, we publish a listing of **international business events** for which we receive **written** notification, preferably by e-mail (info@itagc.org). Any organization may submit events that would be of interest to **and are open to** the Illinois international business community. There is no charge. All calendar listings are subject to the editor's discretion. Inclusion of an event does not imply endorsement by any of the sponsoring organizations.

Founded in 1978, the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago (ITA/GC) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)6 voluntary business association dedicated to promoting international commerce in all its forms. The ITA/GC provides a forum for the exchange of practical information and insight within the international business community. Members share interests in import and export matters, in international investment, alliance, and licensing opportunities, and – in the broader sense – doing business across the world.

The ITA/GC's focus is on practicality: on building knowledge and enabling relationships that help people do international business. While our scope of interest is diverse – all aspects of trading and commercial activity across all geographies and all industries – our work is simple: **to help others gain understanding that is personal, current and actionable.**

New events, and events with additional/revised information, are indicated in Green.

FEATURED ITA/GC PROGRAM

HELPING YOU GAIN UNDERSTANDING THAT IS PERSONAL, CURRENT & ACTIONABLE

May 29 **KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER: PROTECTION FROM SCAMS & FRAUD.** Luncheon program sponsored by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago with the Illinois District Export Council and the U.S. Commercial Service Chicago. Presentations by **Louise M. Kern**, President, GloBIS and **Monica Toporkiewicz**, Senior International Trade Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service Chicago. This program will arm you against fraudsters' attacks by highlighting their vulnerabilities, teaching you to recognize telltale signs of a scam and introducing you to U.S. Commercial Service programs to help you find the right international business partners and succeed in winning new markets for your goods or services. 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Sponsors & their guests – \$55; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/know-your-customer-protection-from-scams-fraud-tickets-888374982487>.

Of Note:

Import Volume Remains Strong at U.S. Ports: Cargo traffic at major ports in the United States is growing year-over-year and is expected to be above 2 million Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units through this summer and into early fall, according to the monthly Global Port Tracker [report](#) from the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates. U.S. ports covered in the report handled 1.93 million TEU – one 20-foot container or its equivalent – in March, the latest month for which final numbers are available. That was down 1.4% from February but up 18.7% from March 2023

Creating a Rationale: An Analysis of the UK's MoU Initiative with U.S. States: As of March 2024, the UK has signed eight Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with U.S. states. This [paper](#) offers a comprehensive analysis of all the MoUs, by delving into their structures, objectives, areas and industries of focus, implementation mechanisms and means of cooperation, and progress monitoring. The report underscores the value of these agreements in fostering economic collaboration, while emphasizing the need for a clear strategic vision, coordinated implementation, and transparent communication to maximize their long-term economic value.

USITC Announces Comment and Hearing Schedule for USMCA Automotive Rules of Origin Report: The U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) is inviting interested parties to [comment](#) on the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement's (USMCA) automotive rules of origin. Parties will have until **September 24, 2024** to request an appearance at the October 8, 2024 hearing, as well as an opportunity to submit prehearing and post hearing briefs.

USTR Releases 2024 Special 301 Report on Intellectual Property Protection and Enforcement: The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) released its [2024 Special 301 Report](#) April 25 on the adequacy and effectiveness of U.S. trading partners' protection and enforcement of intellectual property (IP) rights. This annual report details USTR's findings in a review of more than 100 trading partners after significant research and enhanced engagement with stakeholders.

USCBC Releases Annual Report on US Exports to China: The US-China Business Council (USCBC), a private, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization of 270 American companies that do business in China, released its annual [US Exports to China](#) report, which provides an overview of the most recent data available on US goods (2023) and services exports (2022) to China and the American jobs supported by those exports (2022). The US-China trade relationship has grown steadily for decades, but those ties weakened for US goods exports in 2023. US goods exports to China dropped by 4.3 percent in 2023 after reaching a record high the year before. On the services front, US exports to China increased in 2022 but had not recovered from the shock of the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Global Services Trade Data Hub Offers Extensive, Tailored Access to WTO Data: The new Global Services Trade Data Hub now available on the [WTO website](#) provides access to comprehensive data on services trade. It provides visualizations and customizable features for download – catering to the diverse needs of trade negotiators, analysts, researchers and decision-makers – to deliver insights into global services trade. Four separate WTO datasets are available, covering digitally delivered services, trade in services by mode of supply, trade in commercial services, and the WTO-OECD Balanced Trade in Services dataset.

Introduction to Doing Business in Asia 2024 Guides: The Introduction to Doing Business guides by Asia Briefing, a publishing subsidiary of Dezan Shira & Associates, have been updated for the latest regulatory changes in 2024 for [China](#), [Vietnam](#), [India](#), and [ASEAN](#) (Southeast Asia). Each guide covers the main compliance requirements your business will need to fulfil, as well as a corporate establishment walk-through for each country or region. The guides are free to download.

USTR Releases 2024 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers: United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai released the [2024 National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers](#) (NTE Report), which provides a comprehensive review of significant foreign barriers to U.S. exports of goods and services, U.S. foreign direct investment, and U.S. electronic commerce in key export markets for the United States.

U.S. Remains World's Top Destination for Foreign Direct Investment for 12th Consecutive Year: The United States has been ranked as the top destination for foreign direct investment for the 12th consecutive year according to Kearney's Global Business Policy Council's [2024 Foreign Direct Investment \(FDI\) Confidence Index](#). The strength of the US economy – the fastest growing in the G7 – and rebounding consumer sentiment likely supported this score. Canada also makes a strong showing, maintaining its second-place rank and forming part of the top five markets for the 12th consecutive year. China jumps from 7th position to 3rd, which could be explained in part by its loosening of capital controls for foreign investors in Shanghai and Beijing in September 2023.

New Chamber Report Reaffirms Digital Trade's Enormous Benefits: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce on March 19 released a [report](#) showing digital trade – from telemedicine to GPS-enabled cars to streaming movies – supports more than 3 million American jobs. The digital economy fuels growth, prosperity, and dynamism across the U.S., accounting for \$2.6 trillion in GDP in 2022, a sum equivalent to 10% of all U.S. economic output. The report shows the vast increase in digital trade across the U.S. and breaks down on a state-by-state basis how many jobs are supported by digital trade, as well as revenue earned through digital exports.

USTR Releases President Biden's 2024 Trade Policy Agenda and 2023 Annual Report: The Office of the United States Trade Representative has released President Biden's [2024 Trade Policy Agenda and 2023 Annual Report](#) to Congress, which details USTR's work to advance President Biden's trade agenda. The President's 2024 Trade Policy Agenda stands up for workers' rights and sustainable trade practices, supports U.S. farmers, ranchers, fishers, and food manufacturers, bolsters supply chain resilience, addresses unfair policies and practices, and advances inclusive, durable trade policy through expanded engagement.

USTR Releases Annual Report on China's WTO Compliance: Just released, “this [report](#) details the breadth and scale of China's non-market policies and practices and the serious harm that they cause to workers, businesses, and industries in the United States and around the world. It is a stark reminder that the members of the international trading system must continue to work together to defend our shared interests against these many harmful policies and practices, particularly in sectors targeted by China's industrial plans,” said USTR Katherine Tai.

Annual Report on the U.S. Manufacturing Economy: 2023: Recently released by the National Institute on Standards & Technology (NIST), this [report](#) provides an overview of the U.S. manufacturing industry with three aspects of U.S. manufacturing considered: (1) how the U.S. industry compares to other countries; (2) the trends in the domestic industry; and (3) the industry trends compared to those in other countries. The study provides aggregate manufacturing industry data and industry subsector data to develop a quantitative depiction of the U.S. manufacturing industry.

Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade: In response to growing demand for coherent and comparable data on digital trade, the OECD, WTO and IMF produced the first edition of the Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade in 2019. The Handbook formalized for the first time a statistical definition of digital trade which focuses on the nature of the transaction: “digital trade is all international trade that is digitally ordered and/or digitally delivered.” Building on the first edition, the IMF, OECD, UNCTAD and WTO have produced a second edition of the [Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade](#), published in 2023 which provides clarifications on the concepts and definitions related to digital trade, and to the guidelines on how to operationalize them.

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- May 20 ***THE U.S.-COLOMBIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will explain the details of the agreement and how you can take advantage of these opportunities. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/72cd4vb>.
- May 21 ***EXPORTING TO AUSTRALIA: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover advantages and opportunities for exporting to Australia and how to sell duty-free through the Free Trade Agreement. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/qhyubs8>.
- May 21 ***USMCA & NAFTA - ORIGIN VERIFICATION AUDITS IMPLEMENTED BY MX CUSTOMS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the International Compliance Professionals Association and Braumiller Law Group, will provide guidance on how to prepare your company for a NAFTA or USMCA origin audit from MX Customs; it will also review MX proceedings and legal remedies available to challenge an unfavorable NAFTA or USMCA origin denial determination. 10:30 a.m. CDT. ICPA Members - \$35; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://web.cvent.com/event/50018041-56fd-449e-8bee-e4362cc871be/summary?locale=en>.
- May 21 ***CANADA DOCUMENTATION AND LOGISTICS OVERVIEW.*** Seventh of 10 webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/ExportDocumentationandLogisticsWebinarSeries-9884-/?_gl=1%2A1j52cdf%2A_ga%2AOTQ3ODA4MzcuMTcwODk3NjM4MA..%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AMTcxMjg0ODM5Ny44LjEuMTcxMjg0ODY4My40NS4wLjA.#agenda.
- May 21 ***MEXICO MANUFACTURING & TRADE OPERATIONS: A DISCUSSION OF THE OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES ARISING UNDER THE USMCA.*** Webinar, sponsored by Content Enablers, will identify and discuss the many ways in which to make the most of Mexico’s manufacturing and trade opportunities, including: The benefits and risks associated with the USMCA; Mexico’s expansive web of FTAs (including the CPTPP); The comparative advantage Mexico presents relative to China; The green trade potential embodied in Mexico-centered manufacturing and supply chain operations; The labor and demographic upside that characterizes Mexico’s workforce; U.S.-Mexico AEO alignment. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$185. For information & registration, please see: <https://contentenablers.com/live-events/webinars/mexico-manufacturing-and-trade-operations-under-the-usmca/>.
- May 21 ***FTA DOCUMENTATION AND RECORDKEEPING FOR TEXTILE PRODUCTS, APPAREL & BAGS.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide a comprehensive discussion of free trade agreement and duty preference documentation and recordkeeping for textile products, apparel & bags. 1:00 -2:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/fta-documentation-and-recordkeeping-for-textile-products-apparel-bags>.

- May 22 ***INTERNATIONAL TRADE FINANCE: GETTING PAID.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will describe the range of payment methods used in international transactions to reduce risk. You'll also learn how to take advantage of U.S. government support for exporters through export credit insurance and loan guarantees. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/5sstu8w>.
- May 22 ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- May 22 ***AFRICA MINING AND CRITICAL MINERALS UPDATE: MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA, ANGOLA.*** First of two webinars, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will brief interested U.S. companies on the latest developments and prospects for doing business in the mining sectors. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/UneartingOpportunitiesforUSCompaniesAfricaMininga/>.
- May 22 ***MARITIME DAY CRUISE.*** The Chicago Propeller Club is inviting maritime professionals to attend a special networking event and cruise to celebrate Maritime Day. The event will form part of Chicago's annual 'Blessing of the fleet' ceremony which marks the beginning of Chicago's boating season. 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Navy Pier, 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago. Members - \$50; Non-members - \$85. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-propeller-club-boat-event-tickets-879600598067?aff=oddtcreator>.
- May 22 ***PRODUCT VALUATION CONSIDERATIONS.*** Eighth of 10 webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/ExportDocumentationandLogisticsWebinarSeries-9884-/?_gl=1%2A1j52cdf%2A_ga%2AOTQ3ODA4MzcuMTcwODk3NjM4MA..%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AMTcxMjg0ODM5Ny44LjEuMTcxMjg0ODY4My40NS4wLjA.#agenda.
- May 22 ***CONNECTIVITY OF LOGISTICS, TRADE COMPLIANCE AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT INCOTERMS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the Association of Trade Compliance Professionals, reviews the proper management of Incoterms for the use as a tool to assist in the avoidance of supply chain disruptions in addition to the legacy of resolving disputes. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. ATCP Members – No fee; Non-members - \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.complianceprofessionals.org/connectivity-of-logistics>.
- May 22 ***ENGAGE IN TRADE: U.S. TRADE POLICY AND THE CONVERGENCE OF IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPLIANCE.*** Webinar sponsored by World Trade Center St. Louis. Presentation by **Tyler Black**, Partner, Thompson Coburn LLP, who will unpack some of the specific requirements and the agencies which are asking for this information, and discuss what businesses need to watch out for – whether or not your business operates internationally. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://worldtradecenter-stl.com/events-calendar/events/engage-in-trade-u-s-trade-policy-and-the-convergence-of-import-and-export-compliance/>.
- May 22 ***BIS FREIGHT FORWARDER GUIDANCE: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, offers a detailed discussion on this guidance, how it has changed, and how it applies to your business. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/bis-freight-forwarder-guidance-what-you-need-to-know>.
- May 22 ***DOUBLE, DOUBLE, TRADE AND TROUBLE.*** Webinar, sponsored by A.N. Deringer, features Deringer's experts who will discuss issues brewing in Customs trade compliance. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://info.anderinger.com/double-double-webinar-reg?utm_campaign=Webinars%202023&utm_medium=email&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-94ANGkwjPpOLjkZz8FZEPTUZDc_0cnZ4asNUgej316W34p_6PdHp211L06JDMtluklBbphzuWw9xq4_CcqVp9nxld-w&hsmi=307363057&utm_content=307363057&utm_source=hs_email.

- May 23 ***GROW YOUR EXPORTS FOR CLEANTECH COMPANIES - ONLINE GLOBAL.*** Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and IBT Online. Learn about insights and digital strategies to succeed in your target international markets; Best-practices and insights for optimizing your digital presence around the world, including website localization, digital marketing strategies, and leveraging digital platforms to stand out against the competition; Case studies - how Cleantech companies are using digital solutions to sell online and globally today. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://info.ibt.onl/uscommercialservice-grow-your-exports-for-cleantech-companies>.
- May 23 ***MEXICO DOCUMENTATION AND LOGISTICS OVERVIEW.*** Ninth of 10 webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/ExportDocumentationandLogisticsWebinarSeries-9884-/?_gl=1%2A1j52cdf%2A_ga%2AOTQ3ODA4MzcuMTcwODk3NjM4MA..%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AMTcxMjg0ODM5Ny44LjEuMTcxMjg0ODY4My40NS4wLjA.#agenda.
- May 23 ***BENEFITS OF DESIGNING FOR EXPORTABILITY TO MAXIMIZE YOUR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS.*** Webinar, sponsored by Content Enablers, will discuss designing for exportability to master navigating the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and Technology Security and Foreign Disclosure (TSFD) requirements of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA). 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$185. For information & registration, please see: <https://contentenablers.com/live-events/webinars/benefits-of-designing-for-exportability-to-maximize-your-international-business/>.
- May 23 ***THE STATE OF FREIGHT: SEARCHING FOR SIGNS OF LIFE AS WE ENTER SUMMER SHIPPING SEASON.*** Webinar, sponsored by FreightWaves, will discuss what to expect as we head into the summer shipping season. Key topics will include: Expectations around Memorial Day; Produce shipping season update; Outlook for the coming weeks. 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/4591273/5FD6D324C9D9F719E8235251A3AC3877>.
- May 27 - 30 ***ICT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO SINGAPORE.*** Led by the U.S. Department of Commerce, this mission will be run in conjunction with the Asia Tech x Singapore 2024 (ATxSG 2024) trade show and forum. The purpose of the mission is to expand opportunities for U.S. companies in Singapore and the Southeast Asian region at the intersection of telecommunications services, 5G, SaaS applications, cybersecurity and the digital economy. This mission will also be part of delivering and advancing U.S. technology, standards and commercial interests in this vital region of the world. The objective is to identify, where appropriate and in line with U.S. policy objectives, trade promotion opportunities that will help cement U.S. technology organizations as global leaders in this rapid-growth industry, while also creating new commercial opportunities and encouraging strong regulation and supervision worldwide. For information & an application, Please see: <https://trade.gov/ict-business-development-mission-singapore>.
- May 28 ***MITIGATING FRAUD & CORRUPTION IN CHINA OPERATIONS.*** Webinar sponsored by East West Associates and Grant Thornton China - Forensic Advisory Services. Seasoned executives with real-life manufacturing experience in China – and a skilled professional with deep forensic expertise in China – will tell you about how to mitigate risk in your China operations. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6018854632723858517>.
- May 28 ***EXPORT COMPLIANCE CONSIDERATIONS FOR YOUR SHIPPING DEPARTMENT.*** Last of 10 webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/ExportDocumentationandLogisticsWebinarSeries-9884-/?_gl=1%2A1j52cdf%2A_ga%2AOTQ3ODA4MzcuMTcwODk3NjM4MA..%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AMTcxMjg0ODM5Ny44LjEuMTcxMjg0ODY4My40NS4wLjA.#agenda.

- May 29 ***THE PANAMA-U.S. FREE TRADE AGREEMENT.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will explain the details of the agreement and how you can take advantage of these opportunities. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/mbtknj2>.
- May 29 ***AFRICA MINING AND CRITICAL MINERALS UPDATE: NIGERIA, GHANA, ETHIOPIA.*** Second of two webinars, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will brief interested U.S. companies on the latest developments and prospects for doing business in the mining sectors. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/Unea-9884-1715016175/>.
- May 29 ***KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER: PROTECTION FROM SCAMS & FRAUD.*** Luncheon program sponsored by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago with the Illinois District Export Council and the U.S. Commercial Service Chicago. Presentations by **Louise M. Kern**, President, GloBIS and **Monica Toporkiewicz**, Senior International Trade Specialist, U.S. Commercial Service Chicago. This program will arm you against fraudsters' attacks by highlighting their vulnerabilities, teaching you to recognize telltale signs of a scam and introducing you to U.S. Commercial Service programs to help you find the right international business partners and succeed in winning new markets for your goods or services. 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Sponsors & their guests – \$55; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/know-your-customer-protection-from-scams-fraud-tickets-888374982487>.
- May 29 ***TELEHEALTH/TELEMEDICINE SHOWCASE: CONNECTING U.S. AND KOREAN COMPANIES.*** The U.S. Department of Commerce, in partnership with the Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, is organizing a telehealth/telemedicine showcase to bring together industry associations and leading companies from both countries for a dynamic virtual exchange of valuable insights into market intelligence, regulatory considerations, and the latest trends and technologies driving innovation. 6:00 – 8:15 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://app.inevent.com/en/TradeGov/TelehealthTelemedicineShowcase/>.
- May 30 ***EXPLORE SALES TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will describe market opportunities and challenges, including details of the trade agreement and how to sell duty-free to this exciting new market. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ubn37n8>.
- May 30 ***CH-CH-CH-CHANGES: KEEPING UP WITH EVOLVING LANGUAGE AND CULTURE FOR BETTER GLOBAL CONNECTIONS.*** Webinar, sponsored by Multilingual Connections, will discuss the changing dynamics of language worldwide and the role this plays in business. 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Me6OAAPTTa6QyBrfkgLmcQ?utm_source=nutshell&utm_campaign=R1W2_Email_1_Announcement_5924&utm_medium=email&utm_content=TEST#/registration.
- May 30 ***ELIMINATING THE NOISE: THE ARGUMENT FOR A MEASURED AND RATIONAL APPROACH TO HEDGING AGAINST CURRENCY RISK.*** Webinar, sponsored by Corpay, will discuss: Our approach to the FX market: consider forecasts instead of predictions; The rationale behind ignoring the extreme upswings or downswings of your operating currencies in favor of a systematic/strategic, layered and longer-term framework; Identifying more optimal hedges given prevailing conditions; How businesses can avoid thinking too short-term when it comes to hedging. 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://app.webinar.net/5y93wo7w4bN?utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz-mOiQhFtA4-yV0aR_JZCy2uoMb11Va9xLfbq89de16dEgk52_J6Z420jsjxhjaIb2_OW9QOYj7XOsug9Bx0nwDzbnilQ&hsmi=306015355&utm_content=305558559&utm_source=hs_email.

- May 31 **DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INDIAN COMMERCIAL SPACE SECTOR.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will provide an overview and valuable information on recent changes in the space sector in India, including the new guidelines in India's space policy published in 2023 and changes to the country's foreign direct investment (FDI) rules; it will also highlight opportunities for U.S. exporters in the Indian commercial space market. 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/WEBINARDevelopmentsintheIndianCommercialSpacesector/purchase.php>.
- Jun. 3 - **AG & FOOD BUSINESS MISSION TO CHINA.** The United States Heartland China Association is leading this mission to Shanghai, Shandong and Beijing. Delegation participation fee: \$5,000 per delegate. Includes pre-trip briefing and materials, transportation and hotels in China, participation in meetings and events, and most meals. Travel to/from China not included. For more information, contact Katherine Newton at katherine.newton@usheartlandchina.org.
- Jun. 4 - **EXHIBIT WITH THE STATE OF ILLINOIS AT EXPO PACK 2024, MEXICO CITY.** The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Office of Trade and Investment invites Illinois small businesses to exhibit in the Illinois Pavilion at Expo Pack 2024 in Mexico City. Illinois companies who qualify for the mission will receive the following: Exhibit space within the Illinois pavilion; 25% - 75% partial reimbursement of lodging and airfare costs; Briefing materials; Pre-show promotion; Assistance with travel logistics; Interpreter services during the show. For information & registration (deadline: **March 8**), please contact: chris.sedgwick@illinois.gov.
- Jun. 4 **FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE USAGE IN THE BIOPHARMA AND LIFE SCIENCES INDUSTRY.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, explores how to determine whether an FTZ is a practical option for your business and how to set one up and operate it. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/foreign-trade-zone-usage-in-the-biopharma-and-life-sciences-industry>.
- Jun. 5 **PROVIDING ACCESS TO BLOOD FOR A WORLD IN NEED.** Webinar sponsored by Women Entrepreneurs Grow Global. Presentation by **Gillian Henker**, Co-Founder & President, Sisu Global Health, who will discuss: Customers as partners; Focus in emerging markets; Operations in early stages. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7710716055229751637?mc_cid=4dade5fc05&mc_eid=6499c7d108.
- Jun. 5 **ENSURING COMPLIANCE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT.** First of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will assess the raft of regulatory measures and pressures – UN sanctions, US sanctions, EU restrictive measures, export controls on tech, to name but a few – which demand the attention of Trade Compliance teams today, and will consider the best and most efficient ways in which to navigate the regulatory storm to the shores of successful compliance. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 5 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN BARBADOS/EASTERN CARIBBEAN.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- Jun. 5 **INTRODUCTION TO CUSTOMS VALUATION.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, provides the basics concepts and terminology of customs valuation to aid importers and brokers in meeting their reasonable care obligations and also provides information useful to buyers and finance staff in understanding how customs valuation can impact a company's bottom line. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/introduction-to-customs-valuation>.

- Jun. 6 ***COMPLIANCE CHALLENGES FOR RECRUITING & HIRING: STEERING CLEAR OF DISCRIMINATION.*** Second of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will discuss the legal issues that can set a company's recruitment efforts on the road to discriminating against individuals based on their citizenship or nationality, and consider the measures you can take to balance employment rights with trade compliance requirements in order to avoid the reputational damage, fines and penalties that can arise when you neglect one or the other. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 6 ***REGIONALIZATION OF SUPPLY CHAINS IN NORTH AMERICA – BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR IN MEXICO.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will describe the opportunities that the recent growth in the construction of industrial parks and manufacturing facilities represent for U.S. businesses in the construction sector. 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/MexicoBusinessOpportunitiesintheConstruction/>.
- Jun. 6 ***SOUTHERN CONE CLEAN TECH WEBINAR SERIES: POWER GENERATION & ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES.*** First of three webinars, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features presentations by industry and government experts to introduce U.S. industry to the Initiative for Mitigating Pollution and Climate Threats (IMPACT). 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/SouthernConeCleanTechWebinarSeries/>.
- Jun. 6 ***GROWING YOUR AEROSPACE & DEFENSE BUSINESS COLLABORATIVELY WITHOUT FRICTION: LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CONSIDERATIONS WHEN PURSUING LONG-TERM COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS, GOVERNMENT TENDERS, AND THE EXPORTING OF GOODS AND SERVICES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and the law firm Robinson & Cole, will assist companies that wish to position themselves for these opportunities, including by securing and defending their intellectual property in an increasingly collaborative environment. The seminar will cover the legal and intellectual property considerations for: Teaming and Joint Development Agreements; Strategic Use of NDAs; Cross-border Collaborations that are becoming more prevalent such as through trade agreements like AUKUS; Government Bids and Subcontracting. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/GrowingYourAerospaceDefenseBusinessCollaboratively/>.
- Jun. 6 ***INTERMEDIATE VALUATION: THE FAMILIAR FIVE – UNDERSTANDING STATUTORY ADDITIONS TO VALUE.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will not only acquaint attendees with basic U.S. customs law valuation principles but also reinforce and familiarize companies with the five statutory additions to value: packing costs, commissions, assists, royalties & license fees, proceeds of a subsequent resale. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/intermediate-valuation-the-familiar-five-understanding-statutory-additions-to-value>.
- Jun. 7 ***WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND BUSINESS EMPOWERMENT SYMPOSIUM.*** Event sponsored by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Chicago Field Office in collaboration with Federal Executive Board. This event is designed to bring together forward-thinking women from various sectors to explore opportunities, discuss challenges, and share insights on thriving in the global trade and business landscape. The event will highlight opportunities for women owned businesses, discuss career options, navigate wellness and self-care, provide networking, and promote CBP's international trade mission. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Ralph H. Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. No fee; advance registration required by May 17. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WIIT>.

- Jun. 7 ***VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE: KEY FIRST STEPS WHEN FINDING A VIOLATION.*** Third of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars sponsored by Export Compliance Manager. Retired BIS Special Agency **Don Pearce** will share his insights on the best way forward when evidence of an export control/sanctions violation comes to light. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 7 ***ASSESSING RISK AND ENSURING RESILIENCE IN YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN.*** Fourth of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will consider how to measure the robustness and resilience of your domestic and international supply chains, the red flags that will alert you to potential weak spots, the particular regulatory pressures for doing so – and how, having decided to make a change, the steps you can take to put in place a new supply chain in compliant confidence. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 8 - ***BRAZIL AND CHILE TRADE MISSION.*** The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers is leading this multi-sector trade mission to assist small to medium-sized companies from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence region to export products and services to these important markets. Each mission participant will receive a customized schedule of B2B meetings to meet with prospective customers and business partners. Mission participants will also benefit from networking events and logistical support provided by the GSGP Brazil and Chile Trade Offices. For information & registration, please see: <https://gsgp.org/projects/international-trade/trade-missions/brazil-and-chile-trade-mission-2024/>.
- Jun. 9 - ***ILLINOIS MULTI-SECTOR TRADE MISSION TO CANADA (TORONTO & MONTREAL).*** The Illinois Office of Trade and Investment invites Illinois small businesses to join them on a multi-sector trade mission. Participants will receive a customized itinerary which will include networking events and one-on-one pre-vetted meetings with potential distributors and business partners. Companies selected to participate in the mission will receive the following, in accordance with eligibility guidelines: Pre-scheduled B2B matchmaking; 50% - 75% partial reimbursement of lodging and airfare costs; In-country briefing materials; Assistance with travel logistics. Fee: \$750. For information & an application, please contact: chris.sedgwick@illinois.gov.
- Jun. 9 - ***CUSTOMS BROKERAGE LICENSE PREPARATION WORKSHOP.*** Remote Platform Cloud Based
Oct. 20 Virtual Online Training sponsored by The World Academy for the October 2024 Electronic Customs Brokerage Examination. This course will assist you in the development of test taking reference familiarization, time management, Customs Regulations reference and Harmonized Tariff Schedule determination that will result in positive results in the development of each participant's test taking ability towards a passing grade. Live lectures on alternate Sundays, 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$1,595. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.theworldacademy.com/copy-of-2021-customs-broker-course>.
- Jun. 11 ***FORGING PARTNERSHIPS. EMPOWERING COMMERCE.*** U.S. Customs and Border Protection 2024 Trade Day sponsored by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Chicago Field Office. Connect with CBP personnel, Chicago Field Office Trade Staff, and representatives from partnered government agencies to discuss today's most relevant topics in importing and exporting. **Topics include:** *Chicago Field Office; Port of Chicago; De Minimis: Risk and Rewards; Combatting Exploitation: Forced Labor; Insights: Agriculture Programs & Trade Strategies; Green Trade Initiatives & Opportunities; Navigating Trade Fairness: Anti-Dumping Measures; Agriculture K-9 Demonstration.* 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Four Point by Sheraton, 10249 West Irving Park Road, Schiller Park, IL. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TradeDay2024>.

- Jun. 11 ***A TALK WITH TRG ON BONDS AND CARGO INSURANCE.*** Webinar, sponsored by Star USA, features **Travis Smith**, President of Trade Risk Guaranty, who will discuss what's been happening in the international trade landscape and how these trends overlap with compliance, import bonds, and cargo insurance. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/trg/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Becoming%20an%20LCB%20%20April%202024&utm_content=Becoming%20an%20LCB%20%20April%202024+CID_42a9fd79b131b5835c1b569ca99ce4b&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20register.
- Jun. 11 ***TRADE COMPLIANCE TOOLBOX: A JURISDICTION AND CLASSIFICATION DEEP DIVE.*** Webinar, sponsored by Content Enablers, will cover: *The pros and cons of self-classification; A review of “specially designed”; The impact of incorporation and the see-through rule; Nuances in reading the control lists; Levels of classification; Documenting the analysis; Classification matrices; Third-party classifications; Best practices and challenges.* 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$185. For information & registration, please see: <https://contentenablers.com/live-events/webinars/a-jurisdiction-and-classification-deep-dive/>.
- Jun. 13 ***MEXICO EXPANSION SUMMIT.*** Program sponsored by Nepanoa. Meet with Mexican Government representatives from Nuevo Leon, Jalisco, Baja California, and Chihuahua; Learn about the different industries driving the Mexican economy such as Logistics, Manufacturing, Real Estate, Financial Services, Technology; Forge connections with fellow executives dedicated to nearshoring initiatives; Lay the groundwork for your expansion into Mexico. 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Convene, 311 West Monroe Street, Chicago. Fee: \$215. For information & registration, please see: https://www.nepanoa.com/mexico-expansion-summit?cid=48d0f3b0-f1c2-4acb-a19a-c24e5a521157&utm_campaign=583c8fa5-139c-4543-826c-64f68da3fd7c&utm_medium=mail&utm_source=so.
- Jun. 13 ***THIRD-PARTY RISK AND DUE DILIGENCE: BUILDING A SCREENING PROGRAM AND CREATING A TRADE COMPLIANCE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY MODEL.*** Fifth of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will present the essential planks of the screening program appropriate for your organization today, and how to take a whole-of-business approach to risk analysis and mitigation. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 13 ***MANAGING CURRENT TRADE TRENDS: THE RED SEA AND GLOBAL TRADE.*** Virtual program sponsored by the International Trade Council of Greater Kansas City. Presentation by **Gary Hobin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Operations (DJIMO), U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC), who will discuss: The importance of trade on the Red Sea and the disruptions on this vital waterway; The impact of the disruptions on global economic growth; “Tyranny of Distance” and limiting factors; How trade networks are supporting customers with alternative solutions; Increasing agility and innovative supply chain strategies in the midst of geopolitical tensions; International cooperation for maintaining freedom of maritime navigation. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. ITCGKC Members – No fee; Non-members - \$15. For information & registration, please see: <https://itcgkc.org/event-5710688>.
- Jun. 13 ***TIBS – TEMPORARY IMPORT BONDS – THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY.*** Webinar, sponsored by Braumiller Law Group, will explore what qualifies for TIBs, the requirement for export or destruction, and how to respond to possible penalty notices. 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$35. For information & registration, please see: https://www.bigmarker.com/braumiller-law-group-llc/TIBs-Temporary-Import-Bonds-the-Good-the-Bad-the-Ugly?show_live_page=true.
- Jun. 13 ***BEST LAID PLANS: EXPORT CONTROL ISSUES ARISING ON OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES.*** Sixth of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will look at some of the disasters waiting to happen and consider the best responses in difficult circumstances. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.

- Jun. 13 ***SOUTHERN CONE CLEAN TECH WEBINAR SERIES: SMART GRID & ENERGY STORAGE.*** Second of three webinars, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features presentations by industry and government experts to introduce U.S. industry to the Initiative for Mitigating Pollution and Climate Threats (IMPACT). 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/SouthernConeCleanTechWebinarSeries/>.
- Jun. 14 ***UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING RISK FOR COMPLIANCE.*** Seventh of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will consider the key steps to take to: (1) Identify trade compliance risks from a regulatory and a business perspective; (2) Assess the organization's appetite for that risk; (3) Track and communicate risk to senior and executive leadership; (4) Use risk to build a business case to optimize resources accounting for business operations and financial constraints. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 18 ***ENERGY DISTRIBUTION & TRANSMISSION PROJECTS AT THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will describe the energy challenges and priorities in the region, as well as the projects in energy distribution and transmission that the IDB is developing and financing. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/9e6af0e2-9df4-4f4f-bdf3-421a1e07e2ac@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Jun. 20 ***TAKE THE A TRAIN.*** Eighth of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, shares latest thinking and best practices on training options, keeping content fresh, and utilizing technology to make training easier to implement and more engaging within the Trade team and beyond. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 20 ***WARNING! DON'T PUT TRADE COMPLIANCE IN THE CORNER.*** Ninth of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will share experiences of finding the best (most appropriate) people, structures and organizational positioning for the Trade Compliance team. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 21 ***TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE: THE FIRST 30 DAYS IN YOUR NEW ROLE.*** Last of ten Troubleshooting Compliance webinars, sponsored by Export Compliance Manager, will be for any Trade Compliance professional entering a new position and also for those already in place who would welcome some suggestions on how to refresh their role for the benefit of both themselves and their organization's compliance performance. 10:00 a.m. CDT. Series of ten: ECM Subscribers – No fee; Non-subscribers - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.exportcompliancemanager.com/troubleshooting/>.
- Jun. 25 - ***COMPLYING WITH U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS.*** Event sponsored by the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) and the East Michigan District Export Council, with the support of the U.S. Commercial Service. The program will cover U.S. Government export controls (Export Administration Regulations), including types of controls; classifying your product; licensing requirements; record keeping requirements; export clearance; enforcement; developing an export management compliance program; and laws and policies on U.S. economic and trade sanctions worldwide. Speakers will provide opportunities for Q&A during sessions and will also be available during networking breaks. The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago-Detroit Branch - 1600 East Warren Avenue, Detroit, MI. Fee: \$575. For information & registration, please see: <https://emdec.regfox.com/2024-complying-seminar#register>.
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- Jun. 25 - **FUNDAMENTALS OF TRADE FINANCE AND EMERGING TRENDS.** Webinar, sponsored by Global Trade Review, targets students who want to opt for a commercial banking career and junior trade professionals who want to grow their career in banks, corporates and fintechs. It is designed to provide a strong understanding on the fundamental aspects of global trade finance as well the emerging trends. Structured over two days, the first focuses on the concept of working capital and trade finance in the corporate and banking context. The second day will center on the various types of risks and mitigants within trade finance and also the emerging needs in the industries followed by an assessment. 3:00 – 8:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$895. For information & registration, please see: https://www.gtreview.com/events/europe/gtr-training-2024-fundamentals-of-trade-finance-and-emerging-trends/#tab_overview.
- Jun. 26 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN GUYANA.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- Jun. 27 **SOUTHERN CONE CLEAN TECH WEBINAR SERIES: HYDROGEN ENERGY & TRANSPORTATION.** Last of three webinars, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features presentations by industry and government experts to introduce U.S. industry to the Initiative for Mitigating Pollution and Climate Threats (IMPACT). 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/SouthernConeCleanTechWebinarSeries/>.
- Jul. 9 **US COMMERCIAL SERVICES.** Webinar sponsored by Star USA. A representative from the U.S. Commercial Services will discuss their mission, goals, and services they provide, including: Trade expertise; Potential partners; Market research. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/us-commercial-services/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Becoming%20an%20LCB%20-%20April%202024&utm_content=Becoming%20an%20LCB%20-%20April%202024+CID_42af9fd79b131b5835e1b569ca99ce4b&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20%20register.
- Jul. 14 - **ILLINOIS MULTI-SECTOR TRADE MISSION TO MEXICO.** The Illinois Office of Trade and Investment invites Illinois small businesses to join them on a multi-sector trade mission. Participants will receive a customized itinerary which will include networking events and one-on-one pre-vetted meetings with potential distributors and business partners. Companies selected to participate in the mission will receive the following, in accordance with eligibility guidelines: Pre-scheduled B2B matchmaking; 50% - 75% partial reimbursement of lodging and airfare costs; In-country briefing materials; Assistance with travel logistics. Fee: \$750. For information & an application, please contact: chris.sedgwick@illinois.gov.
- Jul. 15 **INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS.** Course sponsored by the Global Training Center. Managing Forwarders, Brokers & Carriers is the theme of this course. Learn to control your international shipments by directly coordinating your documents with transportation rules and procedures. Review the air and ocean transportation & documentation process. A comprehensive review of the roles of the forwarder and the customs broker. Learn the evaluation and selection process of the international forwarder, customs broker, and carrier. 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., DoubleTree Chicago - Arlington Heights. Fee: \$645. For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/international-logistics-chicago-july-15-2024/>.
- Jul. 16 **TARIFF CLASSIFICATION.** Course sponsored by the Global Training Center. Classification for import, export, FTA determination & clarification on Section 301 and Section 232. The classification & valuation of goods are major decisions! Critical information not only for duty purposes but also to determine whether goods are subject to quotas, restraints, embargoes, or other restrictions. 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., DoubleTree Chicago - Arlington Heights. Fee: \$645. For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/tariff-classification-chicago-july-16-2024/>.

- Jul. 17 ***USMCA THE MODERNIZED NAFTA***. Course sponsored by the Global Training Center. This course is for those new to USMCA and for those already familiar with NAFTA. Learn what the new changes mean for you and how it will affect your current NAFTA process in this USMCA webinar. Special sectors will be discussed and covered. You may need to change your supply chain to continue to benefit under the new agreement. 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., DoubleTree Chicago - Arlington Heights. Fee: \$645. For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/usmca-the-modernized-nafta-chicago-july-17-2024/>.
- Jul. 17 ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN JAMAICA***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- Jul. 18 ***EXPORTING PROCEDURES***. Course sponsored by the Global Training Center. This course will provide an in-depth understanding of export regulations and procedures combined with a study of the appropriate documentation that will give you a valuable advantage in making your international trade business a success. Learn to comply with regulations to avoid violations, fines, fees, and delayed shipments. 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., DoubleTree Chicago - Arlington Heights. Fee: \$645. For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/exporting-procedures-chicago-july-18-2024/>.
- Jul. 19 ***INCOTERMS® 2020***. Course sponsored by the Global Training Center. Take this class to understand when the transfer of risk moves from the Seller to the Buyer and who is responsible for insurance. It's important that you understand which Incoterm is best for your company. 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., DoubleTree Chicago - Arlington Heights. Fee: \$445. For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/incoterms-2020-chicago-july-19-2024/>.
- Jul. 22 - ***ILLINOIS GROUP TRADE MISSION TO FARNBOROUGH AIR SHOW***. The Illinois Office of Trade & Investment invites Illinois small businesses to join them in a group trade mission to the world's largest airshow held in Farnborough, UK. Six key themes are at the heart of the show: Space, Defense, Sustainability, Innovation, Future Flight, and Workforce. Qualifying Illinois companies will receive: Co-exhibitor space within the Illinois booth; Business and government matchmaking; In-country briefings and networking; Personalized hands-on assistance from recruitment to final exhibition; 25 - 75% partial reimbursement of travel costs for hotel and airfare in accordance with guidelines; Organized group hotel accommodation and transportation to and from the fairgrounds. Fee: \$750. For information & an application (deadline: **April 12**), please contact: zdenka.samson@illinois.gov.
- Jul. 22 - ***VIRTUAL CUSTOMS BROKER EXAM PREP COURSE - OCTOBER 2024 EXAM***. Virtual course sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg. This course is designed to prepare attendees to take and pass the customs broker examination. The course includes 40 hours of class instruction on topics such as broker regulations, entry, classification, valuation, free trade agreements, antidumping/countervailing duty, fines, penalties and forfeitures, bonds, country of origin marking, liquidation, search and seizure, and intellectual property. Fee: \$1,050. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/virtual-customs-broker-exam-prep-course-october-2024-exam>.
- Oct. 3
- Aug. 7 ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN SURINAME***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.

- Aug. 19 - ***SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA RAIL AND PORT TRADE MISSION (SOUTH AFRICA & ANGOLA)***.
24 Organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service, Global Automotive and Smart Mobility Team, the mission will include participation at the South African Railway Association's SARA Conference from August 20- 23 in Johannesburg South Africa. Participation in the trade mission will include tickets to attend the SARA Conference for each registered U.S. company participant as well as tailored assistance to help connect company delegates with sub-Saharan Government Transportation officials, private-sector railway and port companies and prospective business partners. U.S. companies mission participants will have several opportunities to network with prospective partners and sub-Saharan government officials, U.S. interagency project financing agency representatives from the Development Finance Corporation, U.S. Export-Import Bank, U.S. Trade and Development Agency and Prosper Africa, and rail and port equipment, technology, and management companies at both the South Africa and Angola stops. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/Sub-SaharanAfricaRailandPortTradeMission/>.
- Aug. 28 ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE BAHAMAS***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- Sep. 18 ***BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features U.S. Government and private sector experts addressing topics of interest to both new and seasoned export professionals. 12:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/CaribbeanRegionWebinarSeries/>.
- Sep. 22 - ***TAIWAN UNCREWED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS) AND COUNTER-UAS (C-UAS) BUSINESS***
25 ***DEVELOPMENT MISSION***. Led by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the objective of this mission is to advance U.S. national interests and focus on meeting Taiwan market demand for U.S. UAS and C-UAS commercial and defense solutions. Participating U.S. firms will explore market development opportunities, gain market insights, make industry contacts, solidify business strategies, and advance specific projects with the goal of increasing U.S. exports and services in the aerospace and defense sectors. For information & an application, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/aerospace-defense-trade-mission-taiwan>.
- Sep. 25 - ***AEROMEDICAL TRADE MISSION TO BRAZIL***. Organized and led by the U.S. Department of
27 Commerce, the goal of the Mission is to introduce U.S. suppliers to the growing aeromedical sector in Brazil, strengthen existing connections between aeromedical suppliers and their Brazilian clients, develop new connections for U.S. companies in the sector, and increase the capacity of Brazilian aeromedical operators, which will lead to additional opportunities for U.S. companies' exports. The trade mission will connect U.S. companies directly with the public sector (federal police, fire departments, and the defense secretariat) and private sector (aeromedical operators/outfitters, maintenance repair and overhaul companies and local business representatives) to sell goods and services in the identified subsectors of aircraft and helicopter sales, medical equipment needed for conversions of existing aircraft, flight simulators, and training for pilots, doctors, and nurse crews in aircraft. For information and an application, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/aeromedical-trade-mission-brazil-2024>.
- Oct. 21 - ***AEROSPACE & DEFENSE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION (DENMARK & SWEDEN)***.
24 Organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the objective for this mission is to give U.S. companies an opportunity to provide aerospace and defense equipment, technology, and services to Denmark and Sweden. Participating U.S. firms will gain market insights, make industry contacts, solidify business strategies, and advance specific projects, with the goal of increasing U.S. exports and services in the aerospace and defense sectors. The mission will introduce U.S. firms to aerospace and defense stakeholders in the region and assist U.S. companies in developing business in Denmark and Sweden. For information & an application, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/nordic-trade-mission-denmark-sweden>.

Nov. 17 - ***GLOBAL DIVERSITY EXPORT INITIATIVE (GDEI) TRADE MISSION TO THE CARIBBEAN***

22 ***REGION.*** Organized by the U.S. Commercial Service, the mission will include the “Opportunities for Minority-Led Businesses in the Caribbean Region Conference” in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on November 17-18. Selected participants will either engage in business-to-business (B2B) meetings in Santo Domingo if approved for the Dominican Republic Trade Mission, or travel to other markets in the region to engage in B2B appointments in those markets. B2B meetings will be conducted with pre-screened potential buyers, agents, distributors or joint-venture partners, in the selected city/market in the Dominican Republic, and/or Barbados/Eastern Caribbean, and/or Guyana, and/or Jamaica, and/or Suriname, and/or The Bahamas and/or Trinidad and Tobago. The mission is horizontal, with various sectors represented, based on best prospects for U.S. companies in the Caribbean region, such as automotive parts and services, consumer goods, construction equipment/road building machinery/building products/infrastructure projects, medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, ICT, energy equipment and services, safety and security equipment, hotel and restaurant equipment, franchising, manufacturing equipment, yachting/maritime services/sailing equipment, marine ports, aviation/airports, tourism and related construction, waste management, and water treatment and supply. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/GDEITradeMissionCaribbeanRegion/>.

Dec. 8 - ***GLOBAL DIVERSITY EXPORT INITIATIVE TRADE MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA.*** Led by the U.S.

9 Department of Commerce, the mission will offer women-owned, -led, and -operated businesses important market insights and meetings with pre-screened foreign business partners and key decision-makers. Included: B2B matchmaking meetings with pre-screened potential buyers, agents, distributors, or joint-venture partners will provide participants with substantive information on strategies for entering or expanding their business in Saudi Arabia, key contacts with Commercial Service officers and local staff, and networking opportunities to build vital business relationships. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/GlobalDiversityExportInitiativeGDEITradeMissiontoS/hotsite.php>.

About the ITA/GC

Founded in December 1977, **The International Trade Association of Greater Chicago (ITA/GC)** was incorporated in January 1979 as an Illinois not-for-profit, voluntary business association dedicated to promoting international commerce in all its forms by providing a forum for the exchange of practical information and insight within the international business community. The ITA/GC’s focus is on practicality: on building knowledge and enabling relationships that help people do international business. While our scope of interest is diverse – all aspects of trading and commercial activity across all geographies and all industries – our work is simple: **to help others gain understanding that is personal, current and actionable.**

Annual membership dues are: Individual - \$150; Consular/Diplomatic - \$75 (up to 3 members); Academic/Faculty - \$200 (up to 8 designated faculty members); Student from a participating academic institution - \$25; Regular student - \$50; Associate/Non-resident (more than 150 miles from O’Hare International Airport) - \$50; Retired/Job Transition - \$50; Corporate (up to 8 designated members) - \$300. For a Membership Application, please call 773/725-1106; e-mail: info@itagc.org; or visit: www.itagc.org.

About Barnes Richardson

Barnes Richardson (<http://www.barnesrichardson.com>) has been focused on international trade regulation and customs law since 1919. Our practice is global and includes matters originating both within and outside of the United States. We are a proud member of Meritas, an international group of law firms providing local, reliable, and efficient legal representation all over the world. We have provided customs or trade advice to over one-third of the manufacturers in the Fortune 100.

About MichaelSilver

MichaelSilver (www.michaelsilver.com) provides a full scope of accounting and assurance, tax consulting and compliance, and consulting services to a broad range of clients in a wide variety of industries in the U.S. and internationally. Global clients are served through the Firm’s membership in GMN International, an association of legally independent accounting firms. MichaelSilver is committed to exceptional service and provides creative solutions to address the needs and goals of our clients. We continually operate in a manner that reflects our pillars: innovative, trusted, consultative, and energizing.