

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

July 8, 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 PROGRAMS

HELPING YOU GAIN UNDERSTANDING THAT IS PERSONAL, CURRENT & ACTIONABLE

Sep. 25 - **PRACTICAL FORUM ON ADVANCED EAR COMPLIANCE.** Conference sponsored by the American
26 Conference Institute (ACI) in partnership with the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** (ITA/GC). The program will delve into the “how to” aspects of strengthening your program and mitigation intensifying enforcement risks amid the Russia/Ukraine war, China trade and technology tensions, increased cyber risk, and general geopolitical unsteadiness. Confirmed speakers from BIS, Dept. of Treasury, Dept. of Commerce and more. 9:00 a.m., Hilton Chicago Magnificent Mile Suites, 198 East Delaware Place, Chicago. Fee: \$2,195 - \$2,495. Contact the ITA/GC to save 10% on registration. For information and registration, please see: <https://bit.ly/3yUI6J2>.

Of Note:

Export-Import Bank of the United States Releases 2023 Competitiveness Report: The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) released the annual [Report to the U.S. Congress on Global Export Credit Competition](#) for calendar year 2023, also known as the EXIM Competitiveness Report. This year's report focuses on the increased support of export credit agency (ECA) activity globally and their expanded roles in global finance.

USTR Releases Second Biennial Report on the Operation of the USMCA with Respect to Trade in Automotive Goods: This biennial [report](#), prepared by USTR in consultation with the Interagency Committee on Trade in Automotive Goods, examines the actions taken by auto producers to demonstrate compliance with the USMCA and whether the USMCA's automotive rules of origin are effective and relevant in light of changing vehicle and production technologies. The report finds that in the four years since the USMCA's entry into force, the Agreement has had significantly positive economic impact on the U.S. and North American auto industry, benefitting producers, suppliers, and workers.

USTR Releases 2024 Biennial Report on Implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act: The [2024 AGOA Report](#) provides a description of the status of trade and investment between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa, changes in country eligibility for AGOA benefits, an analysis of country compliance with the AGOA eligibility criteria, an overview of regional integration efforts in sub-Saharan Africa, and a summary of U.S. trade capacity building efforts.

Education and Training Services Resource Guide - 2023/2024: This 2023/2024 bi-annual U.S. Commercial Service [Education and Training Services Resource Guide](#) is an important tool to assist U.S. institutions with identifying new international market opportunities. The Guide provides a detailed analysis of the education sector in 60 countries, covering trends, demand and more. This new edition contains information on digital marketing outreach strategies and scholarships.

State of Illinois Celebrates Record-Breaking Export Sales for 2023 and Launches Governor's Export Awards Application:

Illinois continues to lead the Midwest as the top exporting state and fifth in the nation, Governor Pritzker's office [announced](#) on June 18. Since 2019, Illinois exports have increased by 32%. Mexico, Illinois' second top export market, was the single greatest contributor to growth, with export sales exceeding 12% growth since 2022 and 39% since 2019. To honor Illinois businesses that contributed to this success, DCEO's Office of Trade and Investment (OTI) is accepting applications for the Governor's 2024 Export Awards from June 1 through August 31. Illinois companies that achieved excellence in exporting and organizations that provided outstanding export assistance to Illinois businesses are encouraged to [apply](#).

Global Economic Prospects 2024: The latest World Bank Group [report](#) forecasts the global economy is expected to stabilize for the first time in three years in 2024, but at a level that is weak by recent historical standards. In 2024-25, growth is set to underperform its 2010s average in nearly 60 percent of economies, comprising over 80 percent of the global population. Downside risks predominate, including geopolitical tensions, trade fragmentation, higher-for-longer interest rates, and climate-related disasters.

New Export Solutions Roadmap on Trade.gov: The U.S. Commercial Service has developed a web-based [Aspiring Exporter Roadmap](#) resource. It provides a straightforward, step-by-step guide for new and growing exporters. Plus the user-friendly roadmap helps businesses to navigate U.S. government resources, including where to find funding for international expansion. Experienced exporters can quickly find the information and tools they need too.

Now Accepting Nominations: Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee: The Secretary of Commerce [invites](#) interested organizations to submit membership nominations to the 2024-2026 charter of the Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC). The ETTAC advises on the development and administration of U.S. government programs to enhance U.S. exports of environmental technologies, goods, and services and strengthen U.S. industry competitiveness. Senior representatives of U.S. environmental technologies manufacturing and services companies, U.S. trade associations, U.S. private sector organizations, States or associations representing the States, and other appropriate civil society groups should apply by **August 9th, 2024**. Prospective applicants are welcome to attend and observe the final meeting of the 2022-2024 charter on July 16th.

U.S.-Brazil Commercial Dialogue - Request for Comments: The International Trade Administration is seeking input on proposed topics for the [U.S.-Brazil Commercial Dialogue](#). The U.S.-Brazil Commercial Dialogue is a bilateral cooperative mechanism between the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade. Comments are sought on the agenda to better address the needs of U.S. exporters. Deadline: **July 31, 2024**.

Hearing on USMCA Automotive Rules of Origin: The U.S. International Trade Commission has scheduled an **October 8th** public hearing for [USMCA Automotive Rules of Origin: Economic Impact and Operations, 2025 Report](#). The deadline for filing requests to appear at the public hearing is **September 24th**.

Global Manufacturing Could See Strong 2025 – 2028: Although the global manufacturing economy is on track for “sluggish” growth of just an 0.6% annual expansion in 2024, that picture is forecast to brighten considerably in 2025, according to a [report](#) from the industrial automation research firm Interact Analysis. Manufacturing output is expected to recover in 2025 and maintain a steady rate through to 2028, despite seeing a slight dip in the growth rate in 2026, the firm said in its latest Manufacturing Industry Output Tracker (MIO). While most territories see optimistic signs of future growth, the global measure of manufacturing production could be hindered by a stuttering economy in China. The report includes a slight downward revision for China compared with the previous edition; from 2.8% to 2.4%.

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.

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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- Jul. 8 **EXPORTING TO BRAZIL.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover the opportunities and challenges that companies may face in Brazil and will include strategies for entering the market. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/528bf78>.
- Jul. 9 **THE NEW GLOBAL ORDER – AN FDI PERSPECTIVE.** Webinar, sponsored by *fDi Intelligence*, will explore the latest insights and trends shaping the future of global FDI and discuss them with a distinguished panel of speakers: **Richard Bolwijn**, Director of investment research, UN Trade & Development; **Bruno Casella**, Senior economist, UN Trade & Development; **Jacopo Dettoni**, Editor, *fDi Intelligence*. 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://globalorder.fdiintelligence.com/?xnpe_tific=bInJbDoZhIHdbfYDhFo84MpsafeWaeiWhFWZVkeJakpWaBWEke9bZ8vVuESOIP.xDzDOFEu4D1d4InDbzTT&utm_source=exponea&utm_campaign=fDi%20-%20Intelligence%3A%20Webinar%20Invite%20July%202024%20-%20Email%20-%2011.06.24&utm_medium=email.
- 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. 9 **WHAT'S NEW IN THE US-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover the details of the changes and how U.S. companies can take advantage of the new export opportunities. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/yjks5xc>.
- Jul. 9 **EXPANDED IMPORT DECLARATION REQUIREMENT – ARE YOUR PRODUCTS AFFECTED?** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will examine what the Lacey Act is, what it requires, and what you need to do to comply. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/expanded-import-declaration-requirement-are-your-products-affected>.
- Jul. 10 **EXPORT 101.** Seminar sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at the College of DuPage Business Development Center. Learn about the basics on how to expand and prepare for this untapped space and the no-cost resources available for your company. Topics Include: *Common Myths about Exporting; Why Export?; Is Exporting Right for Me?; Key Considerations when Exporting; International Trade Center Services; Making Global Trade Easier – Freight Forwarders, INCOTERMS; Accessing Capital for Small Business Exporters*. 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., 535 Duane Street, Suite 301, Glen Ellyn, IL. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://ilsbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/39317>.

- Jul. 10 ***TRADE & DEVELOPMENT – RENEWING AGOA, HOPE/HELP FOR HAITI, AND GSP!*** Virtual program, sponsored by the Washington International Trade Association, will discuss the prospects for renewal of the Generalized System of Preferences – a critical program for the U.S. in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, southeastern Europe, South America, and the Pacific Islands – which lapsed in 2020; as well as AGOA, and HOPE/HELP for Haiti, which both expire in 2025. Speakers include: **Fernando Capellán**, President and CEO, Grupo M & Codevi; **Ed Gresser**, Vice President and Director for Trade and Global Markets, Progressive Policy Institute; **Beth Hughes**, Vice President, Trade and Customs Policy, American Apparel & Footwear Association; **Olawunmi Osholake**, Deputy Managing Director, Global Shea Alliance; **Nicole Bivens Collinson** (Moderator), Managing Principal, Operating Committee, International Trade & Government Relations Practice Leader, Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. WITA Members – No fee; Non-members - \$10. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.wita.org/events/trade-development/>.
- Jul. 10 ***AEROMART TOULOUSE 2024***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss the OEMs and Tier 1s that are expected to attend Aeromart Toulouse 2024 and meet with suppliers. AEROMART connects OEMs and their Tier 1 & 2 suppliers with manufacturers and service providers from both civil and defense aviation, through a series of individually tailored, B2B meetings. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://trade-gov.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Bg2vsmAHSLqS8CY2AUCSGg#/registration.
- Jul. 10 ***DOING BUSINESS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS***. Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will share insights into the organization's demand for goods and services and explain how to get started with UN procurement, give tips for winning UN tenders, and provide resources for support. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/asdcc32>.
- Jul. 10 ***SELLING ONLINE IN CHINA - UNPACK THE COMPLEXITY TO ACHIEVE ROI!*** Webinar, sponsored by IBT Online with the U.S. Commercial Service, will present: Insights into the unique characteristics and dynamics of the Chinese ecommerce market, including key players, market trends, and consumer behavior; Effective strategies for entering the Chinese online market, including website localization, cultural nuances, and market positioning; Case studies - how companies are using digital solutions to sell online and globally today. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://info.ibt.onl/uscommercialservice-selling-online-in-china-unpack-the-complexity-to-achieve-roi>.
- Jul. 10 ***SCALING GLOBALLY: INSIGHTS AND INSPIRATION FROM A GLOBAL LEADER IN INNOVATION***. Webinar sponsored by Women Entrepreneurs Grow Global. Presentation by **Missy Kelly**, Co-founder and CEO, CatTongue Grips, who will discuss: Global Leadership experience; Diverse industry knowledge; Entrepreneurial guidance; Inspirational leadership. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5179136712385755230?mc_cid=596167d9d6&mc_eid=6499c7d108.
- Jul. 10 ***TARIFF CLASSIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLD TEXTILE PRODUCTS***. Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, is designed to help importers learn how to properly classify floor coverings, bed linens, cushions, and other household textile products under the HTSUS. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/tariff-classification-of-household-textile-products>.

- Jul. 10 **REDUCING RISK AND COSTS IN YOUR GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN: FOCUS ON FOREIGN-TRADE ZONES.** Webinar sponsored by the Utah DEC and Kirton|McConkie. Presentation by **Thomas Cook**, Managing Director, Blue Tiger International, who will discuss: *Understanding Post-Pandemic Supply Chain Issues; Eight Proven Options for Reducing Risk and Spend in the Global Supply Chain; First Sale, Consolidated Freight, Demand Planning, HTS Reviews, Alternate Sourcing & Near Sourcing, Tariff Engineering; Trade Compliance Management: Import & Export Controls. Forced Labor Issues.* 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://niwt.org/july-10/>.
- Jul 10 **US EXPORTS AND CHINESE FDI: IMPACT ON US JOBS.** Webinar sponsored by the US-China Business Council. Event will explore the trends and their impacts, including on US employment, with guest experts **Dan Anthony** of Trade Partnership Worldwide, author of USCBC's 2024 Export Report, and **Thilo Haneman** of Rhodium Group, the partner who leads the firm's work on global trade and investment. 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.uschina.org/events/us-exports-and-chinese-fdi-impact-us-jobs>.
- Jul. 10 **HKBAM SUMMER NETWORKING MIXER.** Event sponsored by the Hong Kong Business Association of the Midwest. 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., O'Brien's Riverwalk Cafe, 45 East Riverwalk South, Chicago. HKBAM Members - \$30; Non-members - \$40. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.hongkongmidwest.com/events-1/hkbam-summer-networking-mixer-1>.
- Jul. 11 **EXPORTING PHARMA AND MEDICAL DEVICES TO THE MIDDLE EAST: OMAN AS A HUB FOR MENA.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss how Oman can be a gateway to pharma and medical device export markets in GCC, Middle East and North Africa regions and learn about: Registering pharma products in Oman to access the Omani market and the lesser regulated markets of Yemen, Africa, Nepal, etc.; Exporting finished products from the U.S. to Oman and exploring options to create a gateway for exporting to larger markets of the MENA region– GCC Countries, Levant, Iraq, Sudan, Yemen, and north Africa, plus the benefit of the logistic acceleration that Oman position provides to access East and Central Africa; Oman's registration procedures; Oman's critical pharma needs; Success stories; FTA benefits; Logistics. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/62f0e7dc-06cc-44f9-bc75-0d6ecccc7119@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Jul. 11 **ANTIDUMPING 101.** Webinar, sponsored by Braumiller Law Group, will discuss: *Definition of Antidumping (ADD); The ADD process; A typical ADD case; Withholding of appraisal; Bonds and deposits; Finalizing liquidation; Contesting an ADD finding; Evading ADD duties; Resources.* 11:30 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$35. For information & registration, please see: https://www.bigmarker.com/braumiller-law-group-pllc/Antidumping-101?show_live_page=true.
- Jul. 11 **IMPORTING DUTY-FREE SAMPLES OF TEXTILES, APPAREL, BAGS AND FOOTWEAR.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will outline requirements for duty-free treatment and how companies can comply. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/importing-duty-free-samples-of-textiles-apparel-bags-and-footwear>.
- Jul. 14 - 20 **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. 15 ***CRITICAL DETAILS OF CUSTOMS VALUATION***. Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover the finer details, rules, and terminology of customs valuation, which is especially important for unusual sales contracts, to help traders meet reasonable care obligations. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/aswvphh>.
- 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. 16 ***OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADA'S CYBERSECURITY SECTOR***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will introduce U.S. firms to the rapidly expanding markets for cybersecurity products and services in Canada. The event is designed for U.S. firms and organizations who play a part in the industry, especially those with products in the following categories: Cyber security software and equipment; Information technology and big data management service; Digital infrastructure; Critical infrastructure protection systems and management solutions; Data loss and privacy protection technologies; Endpoint security; Identity and access management; Cloud and network security. 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/CanadaCybersecuritySector/>.
- Jul. 16 ***INFO SESSION – 2024 U.S. CLEANTECH TRADE MISSION TO CHINA***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will describe how to participate in the 2024 U.S. Cleantech Trade Mission this November 4-8, organized by the U.S.-China Cleantech Center, in cooperation with ITA (MDCP program) and the U.S. Commercial Service. Target Sectors Include: Clean Energy; Energy Efficiency; Carbon Capture; Carbon Management; Emissions Abatement; Green Building; Envirotech. 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/57a2b3d9-c955-4be9-9a3a-238676295159@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- 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. 17 **EXPORT JURISDICTION & CLASSIFICATION BASICS.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will discuss how exporters can identify the agency with jurisdiction over their products, how to classify their products, how to determine whether an export license is required, and, if so, how to obtain it, and other related issues. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/export-jurisdiction-classification-basics>.
- Jul 17 **EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover key tips to selling into the region, avoiding pitfalls, and taking advantage of selling duty-free with FTAs. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/amtcz2x>.
- 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. 18 **EXPERT TACTICS FOR HANDLING CBP FORM 28S, 29S, AND PRIOR DISCLOSURES.** Webinar, sponsored by Content Enablers, will discuss: *The “who, what, when, and where of importing”;* *What pre-compliance means and why it is important;* *Common compliance concerns surrounding the use of “reasonable care”;* *How to read and understand a CBP Form 28;* *The ins and outs of responding to CBP Forms 28 and 29, as well as protest essentials;* *When to consider submitting a prior disclosure;* *How to mitigate penalties and what penalties require pre-penalty notices.* 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$185. For information & registration, please see: <https://contentenablers.com/live-events/webinars/expert-tactics-for-handling-cbp-form-28s-29s-and-prior-disclosures/>.
- Jul. 18 **EXPORT CONTROLS & COMPLIANCE.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover export controls from the Departments of Commerce, Treasury, and State, including Export Administration Regulations, ITAR, and Trade Sanctions. 12:00 -1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/yncex3y>.
- Jul. 18 **FEDEx INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND POWERING GLOBAL CONNECTIONS.** Webinar sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at the Turner Center for Entrepreneurship, Bradley University. The FedEx International Sales Team will discuss FedEx’s international service offerings. From e-commerce to global air freight, FedEx has a solution to support your small-to-medium-sized business. Take advantage of complementary tools and resources available and gain a better understanding of how FedEx can power your global connections. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://bradley.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUkcuivqDsqHdXE-L8acK5oTknV61MdnYce#/registration>.
- Jul. 18 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADA.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Small Business Administration and Export Import Bank of the U.S., will give you a broader understanding of the new provisions for trade with Canada, including: Canada big picture; Key focus sectors – opportunities; Market approach and regulatory environment; CS Canada/Toronto presence; Accessing Small Business Capital Trade Finance, STEP Grants; Export credit insurance. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/BusinessOpportunitiesinCanada/>.

- 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. 19 ***THE U.S.-PANAMA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT***. Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will explain the details of the free trade agreement and how you can take advantage of these opportunities. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/g82gix>.
- Jul. 22 - 26 ***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 - Oct. 3 ***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>.
- Jul. 23 ***U.S. TRADE MISSION TO HONG KONG INFORMATIONAL MEETING***. Webinar, sponsored by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, will provide a briefing on the U.S. Trade Mission to Hong Kong during the 25th Hong Kong Forum, December 2-6. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information, please see: <https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-26197955/documents/cd9ee7c482f742fda24c62bb7c698b7d/2024%20U.S.%20Trade%20Mission%20to%20Hong%20Kong%20Delegate%20Information%20Packet.pdf>. For registration, please see: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-2trTgqHtJ_u3rkEPiHwQZbVkkZwBmD#/registration.
- Jul. 23 ***EXPORTING HOME – LATIN AMERICA***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, leverages the U.S. Commercial Service network and the power of the Diaspora network to help all U.S. business, including U.S. Hispanic-led enterprises succeed in the region. Join the webinars to learn about market trends and best prospect sectors for the region. The webinars will introduce the Exporting Home Virtual Connection Program with Latin America. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/ExportingHome-LatinAmericaWebinar-9884-1714485614/>.
- Jul. 23 ***MOVING FORWARD WITH FREIGHT FORWARDERS***. Webinar sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at the Turner Center for Entrepreneurship, Bradley University. Presentation by **Lisa Waller**, President, BDG International, who will share insights on key logistics considerations, such as: How to manage your shipping solutions relationships; Effective import and export strategies; Utilizing de minimis thresholds to your advantage; Questions you need to ask your shipping provider; and A discussion on freight rates, Incoterms and important resources. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://bradley.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtce2prTwjGNawygrELU7G_UgMt2biqWe#/registration.

- Jul. 23 ***U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES MARKET INTELLIGENCE SERIES: INDONESIA.*** Sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, this program will describe how U.S. Environmental Technology providers can take advantage of growing opportunities in Indonesia. You will hear briefings and presentations from Indonesian government officials and industry representatives on areas of potential business collaboration for U.S. companies on waste management, recycling, water and wastewater treatment, as well as air pollution monitoring and reduction technologies. 7:30 – 8:40 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/IndonesiaEnviroTech/>.
- Jul. 24 ***DUTIES AND TAXES: THE FULL LANDED COST.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will show you how to figure out the HS Codes for your products and will provide resources for calculating the duties, taxes, and other fees that might apply to your international shipment. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/zxyzf4u>.
- Jul. 24 ***CHINA'S PET SECTOR: OVERVIEW & OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. COMPANIES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will equip U.S. companies with the necessary knowledge to understand the complexities and potential of the Chinese pet market. Learn about consumer trends, market entry strategies, regulatory considerations, and more from U.S. Commercial Service trade professionals and industry experts. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/ChinaPetSector/>.
- Jul. 24 ***SUPPLY CHAIN OUTLOOK: TRENDS AND RISKS TO WATCH IN 2024.*** Webinar, sponsored by Supply Chain Dive, Manufacturing Dive and Trucking Dive, will break down: How the economy is faring and what it means for supply chains; Analysts' projections for consumer demand and other key metrics; Top logistics flashpoints to watch; Pricing and capacity trends across transportation modes; How trends in AI adoption could affect retail and manufacturing supply chains during the second half of this year. 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://resources.industrydive.com/supply-chain-trends-to-watch-in-2024?utm_source=SC&utm_medium=BlastJune18&utm_campaign=Q32024SupplyOutlookLive.
- Jul. 24 ***TOP 10 MISTAKES IMPORTERS MAKE (AND HOW TO AVOID THEM).*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, reviews the most important, and potentially costly, mistakes importers make and demonstrates ways to either avoid them altogether or mitigate their effects. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: [https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/top-10-mistakes-importers-make-\(and-how-to-avoid-them\)](https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/top-10-mistakes-importers-make-(and-how-to-avoid-them)).
- Jul. 25 ***ANTIDUMPING.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will provide the information needed to help you know what to expect and how to participate in antidumping investigations. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ajc87xt>.
- Jul. 26 ***SCHEDULE B AND HTS CODES - CLASSIFYING YOUR PRODUCTS FOR INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover the details of these codes and the general rules of interpretation to give you confidence in classifying your products for export or import. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ghk3825>.
- Aug. 5 ***INTERNATIONAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will teach you how to learn about foreign government opportunities and the assistance available for winning bids. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/bgzyqsw>.

- Aug. 6 **BASIC EXPORT DOCUMENTATION.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will discuss the wide array of documents and certifications that may be required for your international shipment depending on the product and its destination. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ttryk29>.
- Aug. 7 **EU PRODUCT STANDARDS: HOW TO GET A CE MARK.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will explain, in simple steps, how to obtain and apply a CE Mark to your product. 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$125. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/jx72hxr>.
- Aug. 7 **DISCOVER BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIA.** First in a series of webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service in preparation for the GDEI Trade Mission to India, Singapore, and Hong Kong March 2-8, 2025. USG and private sector experts will present on business opportunities in India. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/188cff51-4ca3-48c1-ae5f-294c9a73539e@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- 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. 9 **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 U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/yayx82c>.
- Aug. 14 **GLOBALIZE YOUR WEBSITE.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will provide you with many tools and resources for updating your website and increasing your international sales. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/frjf37t>.
- Aug. 15 **ADVANCED EXPORT DOCUMENTATION.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover less common export documents so that you're not surprised by unusual requests. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/qvqybct>.
- Aug. 16 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE FINANCE: GETTING PAID.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will discuss the range of payment methods used in international transactions to reduce risk to help you evaluate which is best for your business. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/k3w693b>.
- 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. 20 ***FINDING OPPORTUNITIES IN COMPLIANCE!*** Webinar, sponsored by Star USA, will discuss navigating the intricacies of qualifying your products under the USMCA and how to make the most of its opportunities while avoiding common mistakes. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/usmca/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=USCS%20Collab%20-%20July%202024&utm_content=USCS%20Collab%20-%20July%202024+CID_dd7dbe418357c341b50a1d84d1bb2913&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20%20register.
- 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. 9 - ***U.S. CHAMBER GREENTECH 3.0 BUSINESS DELEGATION TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.***
11 U.S. Department of Commerce Certified Trade Mission organized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, will leverage the Chamber's strong track record of convening U.S. business leaders with top Emirati and U.S. government officials to organize conversations focused on project and investment opportunities for clean energy and sustainable technologies in the UAE. The Business Delegation will have one day of programming and meetings in Abu Dhabi and another day of programming and meetings in Dubai with business networking and optional cultural engagements in each city. For information & registration, please see: https://events.uschamber.com/GreenTechDelegation3_UAE_September2024.
- Sep. 10 ***VALUE.*** Webinar, sponsored by Star USA, will discuss different value calculation methods, related-party transactions, and how to document your work so that you're prepared for any questions that might arise. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/value/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=USCS%20Collab%20-%20July%202024&utm_content=USCS%20Collab%20-%20July%202024+CID_dd7dbe418357c341b50a1d84d1bb2913&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20%20register,
- 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>.

- Sep. 25 - ***PRACTICAL FORUM ON ADVANCED EAR COMPLIANCE***. Conference sponsored by the American
26 Conference Institute (ACI) in partnership with the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** (ITA/GC). The program will delve into the “how to” aspects of strengthening your program and mitigation intensifying enforcement risks amid the Russia/Ukraine war, China trade and technology tensions, increased cyber risk, and general geopolitical unsteadiness. Confirmed speakers from BIS, Dept. of Treasury, Dept. of Commerce and more. 9:00 a.m., Hilton Chicago Magnificent Mile Suites, 198 East Delaware Place, Chicago. Fee: \$2,195 - \$2,495. Contact the ITA/GC to save 10% on registration. For information and registration, please see: <https://bit.ly/3yUI6J2>.
- 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>.
- Oct. 28 - ***DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION (D&C) BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO SE ASIA***
Nov. 1 (***HONG KONG, TAIPEI, HO CHI MIHN***). Trade Mission, led by the U.S. Commercial Service, will look into D&C subsectors such as safety, sustainable materials, retrofitting and refurbishment, construction robotics, automation, digitalization, Modular Integrated Construction (MiC), recycling, sustainable design and materials, and environmental tech. The mission may include group interactions with government agencies and leading trade associations, and potentially customized one-on-one business appointments with pre-screened potential agents, distributors, partners, and buyers. Networking events may provide introductions to government officials, industry leaders, and senior officials from the U.S. Consulate in Hong Kong, the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and the U.S. Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. For information & an application, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/DesignConstructionMissiontoSEAsia/>.
- 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. 2 - **2024 U.S. TRADE MISSION TO HONG KONG.** Mission organized by IBS Global Consulting and the
6 Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC), is being held in conjunction with the 25th Hong Kong Forum, the annual flagship event of the Federation of Hong Kong Business Associations Worldwide. With a curated series of sessions throughout the week, participating in the Trade Mission allows U.S. companies to connect with potential business partners and customers in Hong Kong and Mainland China. It is an opportunity to learn first-hand about the business landscape, business practices, and opportunities in Hong Kong through briefings and roundtable discussions with industry and government leaders to gain invaluable market and industry insights to help propel your global expansion. Delegates will also attend a VIP welcome reception and participate in prearranged B2B meetings. For information, please see: <https://storage.googleapis.com/wzukusers/user-26197955/documents/cd9ee7c482f742fda24c62bb7c698b7d/2024%20U.S.%20Trade%20Mission%20to%20Hong%20Kong%20Delegate%20Information%20Packet.pdf>.
- 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>.
- Mar. 2 - **GDEI TRADE MISSION TO INDIA, SINGAPORE, AND HONG KONG.** Organized by the U.S.
8 Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, this Global Diversity Export Initiative (GDEI) is focused on expanding export opportunities for U.S. businesses that are founded, led, operated, or owned by members of underserved communities from industries with growing potential in India, Singapore, and Hong Kong, but is open to all export-ready U.S. companies. The mission is horizontal, with various sectors represented, based on best prospects for U.S. companies in the region, such as: Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector and subsectors; Cybersecurity; Smart City Infrastructure and Technology Solutions; Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Computing; Finance and FinTech; Healthcare & Biotechnology; Clean Energy; Environmental Technology; and Critical and Emerging Technologies. For information & an application (deadline: **December 4**), please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/GDEITradeMissiontoIndiaSingaporeandHongKong/>.
- May 19 - **GENOMIC AND GENETIC TECHNOLOGIES TRADE MISSION TO GREECE, TÜRKIYE AND ITALY.**
23 Mission, organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, is open to eligible U.S. firms working on genomic and genetic technologies. Best prospects include companies engaged in: Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) R&D and test kit development; Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS); Whole Exome Sequencing (WES); Bioinformatics; Proteomics; RNA Therapeutics; Molecular Cytogenetics; Molecular Genetics; Cancer Genetics; Pharmacogenetics; Rare Diseases; Pre-natal Genetic Disorders; and Preimplantation Genetic Testing (PGT) for In-Vitro Fertilization. Mission participants will have the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the three markets for their products, through hosted networking events and roundtable discussions with key government and industry leaders. Participants will also develop business prospects through vetted business-to-business matchmaking meetings and visits to leading research institutes and genetics labs. For information & an application, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/GenomicandGeneticTechnologiesTradeMissiontoGreeceT/>.

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.