

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

September 22, 2025

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

Oct. 3 ***SILK ROAD CONFERENCE***. Annual event sponsored by the Central Asian Productivity Research Center with Northern Illinois University and support from the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**. The conference will focus on Bilateral Business, Trade and Investments in the Caucasus and an Introduction to Exporting. Speakers from Turkey, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic will discuss various aspects for selection of a market including: logistics; productivity; quality management; tariffs; gray market, etc. Exhibit opportunities available. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Northern Illinois University Outreach Conference Center, 1120 East Diehl Road, Naperville, IL. CAPRC & ITA/GC Members - \$45 (by September 29; \$65 thereafter); Non-members - \$55 (by September 29; \$65 thereafter). For information & registration, please see: <https://www.itagc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CAPRC-October-Conference.pdf>.

Of Note:

USTR Seeks Public Comment on the Joint Review of USMCA: On September 16 the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative [announced](#) a public consultation process in advance of the joint review (Joint Review) of the Agreement between the United States of America, the United Mexican States, and Canada (USMCA) on July 1, 2026. As directed by Congress, USTR is seeking public comments on the operation of the Agreement. In addition, USTR will hold a public hearing on November 17. The Federal Register Notice is [here](#).

USTR Seeks Public Comment on Unfair Foreign Trade Barriers for the 2026 National Trade Estimate Report: On September 17 the Office of the United States Trade Representative [invited public comment](#) on foreign barriers to U.S. exports of goods and services and U.S. foreign direct investment for inclusion in the 2026 National Trade Estimate Report. The deadline for submission of comments is October 30, 2025. The Federal Register Notice is [here](#).

2025 Kearney Reshoring Index: After enjoying two consecutive years of continued momentum, [Kearney's Reshoring Index](#) faced its first significant drop in 2024, raising fundamental questions about the sustainability of the upward trajectory of U.S. manufacturing witnessed in recent years. Despite substantial investment in domestic production capacity, manufacturing gross output (MGO) has been virtually flat since early 2023.

America's African and Haitian Trade Preference Programs End This Month: The Progressive Policy Institute's Ed Gresser reminds us that [two trade preference programs](#) dating to the early 2000s – African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and “HOPE/HELP” – expire on September 30, 2025. Lesotho and Haiti are examples of “preference-reliant” countries. In practical terms, the end of these programs means that Lesotho's jeans — now duty-free — will get both a 16.6% MFN tariff and the Trump administration's 15% “reciprocal” tariff. That is, a 31.6% tax by Columbus Day as against none at all this week. Haiti's duty-free T-shirts will get a 16.5% MFN rate and a new 10% “reciprocal” rate, for an overall 26.5% penalty.

China's Economic Transition: Debt, Demography, Deglobalization, and Scenarios for 2035: This new [report](#) from the Center for Strategic & International Studies aims to present a clear picture of the economy Beijing wants to build by 2035 and develop potential scenarios for how this might unfold in reality—as well as explore the implications for U.S. policymakers, the U.S. economy, and other Western countries. The report focuses, in particular, on how China's approach to managing the challenges of debt, demography, and deglobalization might shape its economic trajectory.

Canada Lays the Groundwork to Pivot Away from the United States: The Council on Foreign Relations' Edward Alden, writing in an Expert Brief, says: “Canada's fallout with the United States over the Trump administration's tariff policy has forced it to forge a new path that will swap its deep economic and security ties with Washington for internal development and other relationships abroad.” The full article is [here](#).

LA port Sees 10% Import Drop through Year-end: The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach experienced record-high container traffic in July and August, driven by pre-holiday stocking and trade war uncertainty, reports [FreightWaves](#). Growth is expected to slow significantly for the remainder of 2025 due to already-arrived holiday goods, economic slowdown, and new ship fees.

Global Debt Remains Above 235% of World GDP: As reported in the [IMF Blog](#), total debt was little changed last year, just above 235 percent of global gross domestic product, according to the latest update of the IMF's [Global Debt Database](#). In US dollar terms, total debt increased slightly to \$251 trillion, with public debt rising to \$99.2 trillion and private debt decreasing to \$151.8 trillion.

China's Soybean Shift Threatens US Farmers — and Freight Jobs: [FreightWaves reports](#) a sharp drop in U.S. soybean exports to China could impact more than just farmers — it may soon begin putting pressure on trucking jobs, rail shipments, and port operations across the country. Once America's top soybean customer, China has drastically cut back purchases in favor of South American suppliers. With fewer soybeans slated to move overseas, freight demand could plummet — and so could jobs.

Study In Sweden - Student Fair by the Swedish American Chambers of Commerce: Connect with representatives from ten leading Swedish universities and explore world-class education in Sweden! October 8, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., North Park University, 3225 West Foster Avenue, Chicago. For information & registration, please see [here](#).

Trade Deficit Soared as Imports Surged Ahead of Tariff Increase: The Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg [Trade Report](#) cites Census Bureau figures as the U.S. trade deficit in goods and services jumped 32.5 percent in July as imports and exports continued to be affected by U.S. tariff and trade policies. The report includes a chart of the June 2025 trade deficits and surpluses with major trade partners.

The Size of European Economies by GDP (PPP) in 2025: As graphically displayed on [Visual Capitalist](#), Western Europe makes up the largest portion of the \$43.8 trillion PPP-adjusted European economy, when measured in International dollars. Eastern Europe (\$12.8T) outperforms both Northern (\$7.8T) and Southern Europe (\$8.3T) in PPP terms, helped in large part by the Russian economy (\$7.2T). However, by nominal USD terms, Eastern Europe is the smallest (\$4.6T), outweighed by just the Germany economy (\$4.7T).

The Global Sourcing Risk Index 2025: Developed in collaboration with Oxford Economics, [The Global Sourcing Risk Index](#) analyzes the top 20 global economies, plus 10 fast-emerging economies, against 10 key sectors and eight risk dimensions: Geopolitical Conflict, Climate, Governance, Control, and Compliance, Human Rights, Trade Barriers, Labor Cost Volatility, Input Cost Volatility, and Supplier Concentration. The Index offers a strategic view of high-risk country-sector pairings across each of the risks, and how procurement leaders can respond with clarity and control.

Department of Commerce Posts 2nd Quarter Gross Domestic Product to the Blockchain: Recently, the Department of Commerce announced that it will begin posting real gross domestic product (GDP) data on the blockchain beginning with the July 2025 data. This is the first time a federal agency has published economic statistical data like this on the blockchain, and the latest way the Department is utilizing innovative technology to protect federal data and promote public use. See [here](#) for details.

2025 Tariff Impact Survey: The Department of Political Science at the University of Kansas is partnering with various World Trade Centers to conduct this [survey](#) of business leaders about their experience with the latest U.S. tariff increases. Completion of the survey indicates your willingness to take part in this study and that you are at least 18 years old. Your participation is expected to take approximately 10 minutes.

Trump's Tariff Revenue Tracker: Gary Clyde Hufbauer and Ye Zhang of the Peterson Institute for International Economics have [charted tariff revenues](#) in practice over time: How much tariff revenue is the US collecting on different products?; How much tariff revenue is the US collecting on different countries' goods?; Can Trump's tariff revenues help pay for the federal budget deficit?

CFIUS 2024 Annual Report: Compliance, Enforcement, and Non Notified Transactions: Wiley Rein LLP [reports](#) on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States' (CFIUS) recently released [public version](#) of its Annual Report to Congress. Key trends include an increase in formal inquiries into non-notified transactions and continued focus on compliance and enforcement of mitigation agreements, including five civil penalties and 79 compliance site visits.

Ranked: The Best and Worst Countries for Taxes: Among OECD countries the Tax Foundation ranks Estonia with the best tax code. The U.S. is ranked 18th according to the Tax Foundation's [International Tax Competitiveness Index 2024](#) as visualized graphically by the [Visual Capitalist](#).

As US Population Growth Slows, We Need to Reset Expectations for Economic Data: US population growth has slowed sharply in the last year and a half, as the immigration surge of the early 2020s has ended and the population continues to age, writes Jed Kolko in the Peterson Institute for International Economics [Policy Brief 25-5](#). Fewer jobs are needed to keep up with the growth of the labor force, and growth rates of output and consumption will fall even if per capita output and consumption hold steady. Accordingly, policymakers need to lower their targets and forecasts for key economic data and put more weight on per capita and other population-invariant measures.

New Standards for Economic Data Aim to Sharpen View of Global Economy: The *IMF Blog* has announced an updated [System of National Accounts](#) (SNA) to better capture digitalization, intangible assets, and global production—helping governments support growth, jobs, and investment. The SNA, a global standard for national metrics including production, income, consumption, capital investment and financial activities, as well as national wealth has been updated for only the sixth time in almost ninety years.

WTO Issues 2025 Annual Report: On August 7 the WTO published its [2025 Annual Report](#), providing a comprehensive account of the organization's activities in 2024 and the early part of 2025. The Report looks back at recent key events, such as the 13th Ministerial Conference in February 2024, and describes the WTO's work in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing world trade.

U.S. Import Dependence on China by State: The *Visual Capitalist* has published a [graphic](#) showing the U.S. states with the highest share of imports from China, based on data from the U.S. International Trade Administration. Nevada ranks first at 26%; Illinois is fifth at 19%; Montana last at 1%.

Corruption Perceptions Index 2024: Transparency International's latest [index](#) ranks the U.S. 28th (down from 24th in 2023), behind Taiwan & the Bahamas but ahead of Israel and South Korea. The CPI ranks 180 countries and territories worldwide by their perceived levels of public sector corruption. The results are given on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). While 32 countries have significantly reduced their corruption levels since 2012, there's still a huge amount of work to be done – 148 countries have stayed stagnant or gotten worse during the same period. The global average of 43 has also stood still for years, while over two-thirds of countries score below 50.

Sep. 22 - **EXPANSION SUMMIT: NORTH AMERICA.** Event sponsored by: Nepanoa; BBVA; Santos|Elizondo;
23 U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter. This is the definitive business event for leaders operating across the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. Gain a full-spectrum view of North America's business landscape, from manufacturing and logistics to policy, talent, infrastructure, and compliance. This is where decision-makers access strategic insights, regulatory clarity, and cross-border intelligence they can act on now. Topics include: *The Future of North America; An Economic Outlook of the Region; Understanding the Legal Landscape of North American Business; Labor & Talent; Multinational Operations; Tariff Strategy; Trade and Logistics across the Bloc; Scaling and Sustaining Multinational Operations*. Venue Six10, 610 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Fee: \$350 (Early Bird). For information & registration, please see: https://www.nepanoa.com/expansion-summit-north-america?utm_campaign=3ebfbc3e-e0e1-4b5d-9104-b475347a4916&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail&cid=cbfe6f4f-fbc1-4857-a0f2-661e359f4f39.

- Sep. 22 ***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/uevm69y>.
- Sep. 23 - ***ENCRYPTION CONTROLS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the Professional Association of Exporters and
24 Importers, is an in-depth session that will focus on the unique provisions related to encryption under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), as well as providing an overview of foreign encryption export/import controls, focusing on the practical aspects of implementing an internal compliance program and dealing with government regulators. Speakers include: **Felice Laird**, Principal, Tradecompliance.ai ; **Mathilde Latour**, Senior Corporate Counsel, Cisco Systems, former Desk Officer at the French Cybersecurity Agency (ANSSI); **Michael Pender**, Trade Analyst, Fenwick & West, former Licensing Officer, Bureau of Industry & Security, Information Technology Controls Division; **Maher Shomali**, Partner, Thomsen & Burke LLP. 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT. PAEI Members - \$300; Non-members - \$375. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.paei.org/paei-events/encryption-controls-webinar/>.
- Sep. 23 ***UNDERSTANDING RULES OF ORIGIN AND THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT.*** Webinar, sponsored by the Illinois Chamber, will focus on rules of origin, navigating origin for free trade agreements, and navigating tools the IL Chamber provides to streamline and digitize the issuance of certificates of origin and other trade documents. 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. CDT. Chamber Members – \$25; Non-members - \$134. For information & registration, please see: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/3gts827?source_id=de460852-54d8-4903-a8e1-2c06aeb85c30&source_type=em&c=cujB9CdtJKjAGw78YFHeef7rB3dhPwxG7mCSqTelSARAYf-KgLdUXA==.
- Sep. 23 ***THE “UNSEEN” SUPPLY CHAIN: NAVIGATING NEW REGULATORY DEMANDS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the American Association of Exporters & Importers, will unpack the impacts of recent legislation on supply chain risk management. It will provide actionable guidance on how to use AI-enhanced corporate and trade records to better achieve this new understanding of supply chain visibility, ensuring compliance while maintaining a competitive edge. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://members.aaei.org/ap/Events/Register/mwFAqADHmC3Ce>.
- Sep. 24 ***GLOBAL MARKET ENTRY STRATEGIES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will detail the different strategies companies can use in foreign markets to help you decide on the best one for your company. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ube2v64>.
- Sep. 24 ***GROWING GLOBAL 2025: AFRICA RISING – NAVIGATING MARKETS, INVESTMENTS & TRADE.*** Luncheon program, sponsored by World Trade Center St. Louis, will explore how and why St. Louis should prioritize engagement with Africa. Panelists include: Hon. **Francis Gatare**, Senior advisor to the President of Rwanda; **Elzandi Oosthuizen**, Senior Vice President, Head Enterprise Corn Product Team, Bayer Crop Science Division; **Fred Swaniker**, Founder and CEO, Sand Technologies; **Debbie Monterrey** (Moderator), KMOX Morning News Anchor. 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., The Ritz-Carlton, 100 Carondelet Plaza, St. Louis, MO. Fee: \$125. For information & registration, please see: <https://worldtradecenter-stl.com/events-calendar/events/save-the-date-growing-global-2025-africa-rising-navigating-markets-investments-trade/>.
- Sep. 24 ***HOW TO EXPORT FROM THE U.S. TO THE EU.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will walk you through the key steps to ensure compliant, cost-effective, and delay-free deliveries into Europe, including: *A step-by-step process for exporting goods from the U.S. into the EU; How to avoid common customs delays and unexpected charges; Understanding EU Sales Tax: registration, reclaim, and reporting requirements; The role of Importers of Record (IORs), fiscal representation, and compliant delivery terms; Q&A session on real-world export scenarios.* 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/HowtoExportfromtheUStotheEU-9884-1755011078/>.

- Sep. 24 **GENERATIVE ENGINE OPTIMIZATION: WHAT COMPANIES NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AI SEARCH FOR BUSINESS GROWTH.** Webinar, sponsored by the International Trade Administration and IBT Online, will discuss how AI-driven search is reshaping global buyer journeys, and what your business needs to do now to stay visible, credible, and competitive in both U.S. and international markets. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/ecommerce-grow-your-exports?anchor=content-node-t14-field-lp-region-1-2>.
- Sep. 25 **EAST MEETS WEST: WHY HONG KONG REMAINS AMERICA'S ASIAN LAUNCHPAD.** Webinar, sponsored by IBS Global Consulting and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, provides a comprehensive framework for demonstrating Hong Kong's continued relevance as America's premier Asian launchpad, while providing practical and actionable guidance for successful market entry and business development. Speakers include **Tonya McNeal-Weary**, Managing Director, IBS Global Consulting and **Wing Chu**, Deputy Director of Research, Greater China Research Team, HKTDC. 9:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/SbBEAKGvSYOnj5nUqbXN3g#/registration>.
- Sep. 25 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE EUROPEAN RAIL AND PORT SECTORS.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will help you: *Explore export opportunities in rail, maritime, infrastructure, and adjacent sectors; Gain market insights from U.S. Embassy trade experts and in-market decision-makers; Learn how to navigate global business environments and access key resources for success.* 9:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: <https://app.inevent.com/en/TradeGov/WhistleStopTour/>.
- Sep. 25 **AN EVOLVING WORLD ORDER: COST OF CAPITAL IN THE CURRENT ENVIRONMENT.** Webinar, sponsored by Kroll, where Kroll experts will unpack the latest economic and financial market developments that have an impact on valuations and cost of capital estimates. Speakers: **Carla Nunes**, Managing Director, Valuation Services, Philadelphia and **James P. Harrington**, Director, Valuation Services, Chicago. 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://www.kroll.com/en/events/2025/webinar-evolving-world-order-cost-of-capital-in-current-environment?utm_campaign=na_fa_coc_2408_webinar_cost_of_capital_in_the_current_environment&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua.
- Sep. 25 **ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF US TARIFFS ON ASIA.** Webinar, sponsored by Dezan Shira & Associates, will explain the current US tariff landscape in Asia, compare trade agreements, and evaluate ongoing negotiations with China and India. Key Topics: *Current US tariffs on goods from Asian countries; Comparison of US trade agreements with Asian countries; Assessing ongoing US negotiations with China and India; Outlook for US tariffs.* 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3280064637055651933?source=flyer&utm_source=brevio&utm_campaign=dsa_invitation&utm_medium=email.
- Sep. 25 **MINIMIZING DE MINIMIS.** Webinar, sponsored by Braumiller Law Group, will cover the De Minimis exemption and the changes being made to it through executive actions and legislation, and what the new rules look like. 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.bigmarker.com/braumiller-law-group-pllc/minimizing-de-minimis>.
- Sep. 25 **EXPORT CREDIT INSURANCE: MAXIMIZE EXPORT SALES AND MINIMIZE PAYMENT RISK.** Webinar, sponsored by IMEC, will cover how U.S. companies can utilize credit insurance tools to sell on credit to fuel export growth while protecting their cash flow in an increasingly uncertain international trade landscape. Presentation by **Jacqueline Meredith Grahn**, Principal, Trade Acceptance Group, who will discuss: *Review of International Payment Options; What is Export Credit Insurance?; Federal Government Option (EXIM Bank) and Private Insurance; Qualifying a Foreign Buyer; Case Studies; Role of a Trade Credit Insurance Broker.* 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.imec.org/event/export-credit-insurance-maximize-export-sales-and-minimize-payment-risk/>.

- Sep. 25 **ADVANCED CLASSIFICATION PART 1.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will take a deep dive into GRI 1 to interpret and apply the tariff terms and notes, GRI 3(a) (rule of specificity), and US ARI 1(a) (principal use) [Part 2: October 22]. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/advanced-classification-part-1>.
- Sep. 25 **EUROPEAN PROFESSIONALS NETWORKING – GOOSE ISLAND SALT SHED.** This after-work event offers a relaxed and professional setting to connect with members of Chicago's international business community. 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., Goose Island Salt Shed Pub, 1221 West Blackhawk Street, Chicago. Members of European Chambers - \$40; Non-members - \$55. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.gaccmidwest.org/us/events/european-professionals-networking-goose-island-salt-shed>.
- Sep. 25 **SEPTEMBER HAPPY HOUR.** Networking event sponsored by the British-American Business Council Chicago. 5:00 – 7:30 p.m., Elephant & Castle Pub and Restaurant, 111 West Adams Street, Chicago. No fee. For information & registration, please see: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/q9qxckx?source_id=467a24d7-f4f4-493b-b4ab-26cf4c755bda&source_type=em&c=axJjhQ99AcKzWafRAKdeaPr43yOAG6wz0elYEBUD5GYMDNqXpj3JIQ==.
- Sep. 25 **INTERNATIONAL TRADE COUNCIL OF GREATER KANSAS CITY'S 80TH ANNUAL MEETING.** Dinner program sponsored by the International Trade Council of Greater Kansas City. Event includes: Networking & Cocktail Hour; Dinner; Presidential Panel discussion on "Past, Present & Future"; Passing the Torch Gavel Ceremony. 5:30 – 8:00 p.m., Milburn Country Club, 7501 West 69th Street, Overland Park, KS. ITCGKC Members - \$60 (by September 9; \$70 thereafter); Non-members - \$80 (by September 10; \$90 thereafter). For information & registration, please see: <https://itcgkc.org/event-6247600>.
- Sep. 25 **SMASH PARK NETWORKING EVENT.** Networking event sponsored by the Midwest International Trade Association. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Smash Park - La Vista, 8121 South 125th Street, La Vista, NE. MITA Members - \$25; Non-members - \$35 (includes food and beverages). For information & registration, please see: <https://mitaonline.org/events/smash-park-networking-event/>.
- Sep. 26 **UA4USA 2025: UKRAINIAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS FORUM.** Event, sponsored by the Ukrainian American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, is the first major U.S. forum spotlighting how Ukrainian-founded companies are powering the American economy - creating jobs, paying taxes, driving innovation, and strengthening communities. This is a platform for measurable impact where diaspora leadership meets public policy, private capital, and real outcomes. 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Reception follows), 150 North Michigan Avenue, 35th Floor, Chicago. Fee: \$100. For information & registration, please see: <https://ukrainianamericanchamber.org/ua4usa-forum/>.
- Sep. 29 - **USDA AGRIBUSINESS MISSION TO TAIWAN.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign
Oct. 1 Agricultural Service (FAS) is now accepting applications for its upcoming agribusiness trade mission to Taipei, Taiwan. The U.S. Department of Agriculture anticipates strong opportunities in Taiwan for the following product groups: Beef and pork products; Fresh fruit; Dairy; Tree nuts; Seafood; Soybeans; Corn; Wheat; Pet food. During the trade mission, U.S. agribusiness representatives will connect directly with buyers in Taiwan through business-to-business meetings, market briefings, site visits, and networking events led by FAS staff and regional trade experts. U.S. exporters interested in expanding their trade opportunities in Taiwan's thriving agricultural market must apply by Tuesday, **June 17**. For information & an application, please see: <https://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/trade-missions/taiwan-september-2025>.
- Sep. 29 **FROM SOURCE TO SOLUTION.** Industry-focused roundtable hosted by the Quebec Government Office in Chicago and the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Topics include: *Water reuse and recycling strategies; PFAS and emerging contaminants; Smart stormwater and wastewater management; Technology for efficiency and compliance; Cross-border innovation and collaboration.* 8:00 a.m., UIC Energy Center, Chicago. No fee. For information & registration, please contact: olivier.perrachon@mri.gouv.qc.ca.

- Sep. 29 ***FALSE CLAIMS ACT AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT—WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.*** Webinar, sponsored by Crowell & Moring LLP, will cover the FCA and the government's investigative tools, enforcement trends and case developments, and steps that companies can take to mitigate risks. 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.crowell.com/en/insights/webinars/false-claims-act-and-customs-enforcementwhat-you-need-to-know>.
- Sep. 29 ***GLOBAL LOGISTICS: MITIGATING THE CHALLENGES AND MAXIMIZING OPPORTUNITIES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the National Association of District Export Councils, will reveal proven strategies for supply chain risk management, insights to minimize scheduling and cost impacts, and uncover best practices to seize emerging opportunities in global trade. Presentations by **Thomas Cook**, Managing Director, Blue Tiger International and **Fred Latuperissa**, President/CEO, Exim 20/20 Group, LLC. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3dqCARZGQ5CEDVy8VZYqwx#/registration.
- Sep. 30 ***MIDWEST AGRICULTURE AND TRADE UNCERTAINTY.*** Midwest Agriculture Conference sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Hybrid event features experts from academia, industry, and policy institutions who will explore the evolving global trade environment and its impacts on Midwest agriculture. Keynote: **Austan Goolsbee**, President and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Topics include: *Agriculture and Trade Policy Shifts; The Geography of Agricultural Trade - Partners and Competitors; Implications of the Current Trade Environment for Midwest Agriculture.* 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CDT, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago. Virtual Attendees – No fee; In-person - \$40. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.chicagofed.org/events/2025/midwest-agriculture-conference>.
- Oct. 1 ***NAVIGATING TRADE COSTS FOR U.S. EXPORTERS: STRATEGIES, TOOLS & COMPLIANCE.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Connecticut District Export Council, will discuss how U.S. exporters can recover duties and streamline customs processes by understanding tariff management best practices and programs. Topics include: *How to recover duties through the Duty Drawback program; Foreign Trade Zones (FTZs) uses and benefits for US companies; Best practices for HTS classification & verification; How to take full advantage of Free Trade Agreements; The impact of INCOTERMS on your pricing, risk, and responsibilities.* 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/NavigatingTradeCostsforUSExportersStrategiesToolsC/?_gl=1%2A18em2w9%2A_ga%2AMTQ0MjY3MDMxMC4xNjgwMTE3NjU1%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzY0JGcxJHxNzU4MDM2ODAlJGo2MCRsMCRoMA..%2A_ga_6D3N6M4S6H%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzI5JGcxJHxNzU4MDM2ODAlJGo2MCRsMCRoMA..
- Oct. 1 ***MANUFACTURING MONTH KICK-OFF: NAVIGATING EXPORT RESOURCES FOR U.S. MANUFACTURERS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial service, will describe how U.S. manufacturers can tap into federal export resources, trade counseling, market intelligence, and global connections to expand internationally. Hear from I&A, EXIM, SBA, Advocacy, NIST/MEP, USCS, SelectUSA, and the Supply Chain Center. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/f881ace8-41eb-493b-82f7-59ff1fde0d59@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 1 ***FROM CORPORATE POWERHOUSE TO FOUNDER: REDEFINING BEAUTY AFTER 50.*** Webinar sponsored by Women Entrepreneurs Grow Global. Presentation by **Sonsoles Gonzalez**, Founder, Better Not Younger. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://womenentrepreneursgrowglobal.org/2025/09/03/from-corporate-powerhouse-to-founder-redefining-beauty-after-50/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=from-corporate-powerhouse-to-founder-redefining-beauty-after-50&mc_cid=f27ae094cc&mc_cid=6499c7d108.

- Oct. 1 ***FDA REGISTRATION OVERVIEW: FOOD, COSMETICS & MEDICAL DEVICES.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will highlight the differences between these products, clarify the existing regulatory landscape for medical foods and offer suggested compliance practices. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/fda-registration-overview-food-cosmetics-medical-devices>.
- Oct. 1 ***ADVANCED MANUFACTURING COFFEE CHAT - ADVANCED MANUFACTURING IN ASIA - 3D PRINTING, INDUSTRY 4.0 AND INDUSTRIAL ROBOTICS.*** Virtual event, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, offers a valuable platform for U.S. companies to gain insights from industry experts from Japan, Indonesia, and Singapore within the 3D Printing, Industrial Robotics, and Industry 4.0 sectors. U.S. Commercial Specialists will also be providing market briefings and key insights on developing your market entry strategy in the region. 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/4c6f277e-b328-4031-a25d-7b4a74e4698c@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 2 ***BEYOND THE BARN: HOW U.S. DAIRY GENETICS LEADS THE WORLD.*** Hosted session during World Dairy Expo 2025 organized by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection in collaboration with National Association of Animal Breeders and Livestock Exporters Association. Topics include: *Doing Business with Americans; Strength of U.S. Animal Health Programs; The U.S. Advantage: Genetics Powered by Diverse Environments; Sharpening the U.S. Genetics Edge: What Dairy Can Learn from Other Sectors.* 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall, 1st Floor, Mendota 3 Room. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.itagc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/WDE-Hosted-Sessions-2025-Flyer.pdf>.
- Oct. 3 - 7 ***2025 WITA ACADEMY VIRTUAL INTENSIVE TRADE SEMINAR.*** Virtual three-part series sponsored by the Washington International Trade Association. Among the topics: *Trade Law Primer (Sections 122, 201, 232, 301, IEEPA and update on legal challenges); The New Dynamics in Trade Policy in the Executive Branch and the Interagency Process in the Trump Administration; The Congressional Role in Trade Policymaking; USTR Role in Monitoring and Enforcement; Customs and Border Protection; Export Controls, Sanctions, and Investment Controls; U.S. Trade Update – Ongoing Negotiations and Tariffs; USMCA 6-Year Review – Status Update.* Speakers include: **Paul H. DeLaney, III**, Vice President, Head of Government Relations, SK Americas; former International Trade Counsel, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance; former Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; **Iana Dreyer**, Founder and Editor, Borderlex; **Deborah Elms**, Head of Trade Policy, Hinrich Foundation, former Founder and Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre; **Nasim Fussell**, Senior Vice President, Lot Sixteen; former Chief International Trade Counsel, U.S. Senate Committee on Finance; **Timothy Keeler**, Partner, Co-Leader of International Trade, Mayer Brown; former Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; former Deputy to the Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Legislative Affairs; **Ryan Majerus**, Partner, King & Spalding; former Acting Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance, U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration; **John Pickel**, Vice President, International Supply Chain Policy, NFTC; former Principal Director, U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and former Trade Counselor, U.S. Customs and Border Protection; **Ted Posner**, Head of National Security and Trade Risk Mitigation, Baker Botts; former Assistant General Counsel, U.S. Department of the Treasury. October 3, 6, 7: 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: varies (\$100-\$300). For information & registration, please see: <https://www.wita.org/events/2025-wita-virtual-intensive-trade-seminar/>.

- Oct. 3 ***SILK ROAD CONFERENCE***. Annual event, sponsored by the Central Asian Productivity Research Center with Northern Illinois University and support from the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**. The conference will focus on Bilateral Business, Trade and Investments in the Caucasus and an Introduction to Exporting. Speakers from Turkey, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic will discuss various aspects for selection of a market including: logistics; productivity; quality management; tariffs; gray market, etc. Exhibit opportunities available. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Northern Illinois University Outreach Conference Center, 1120 East Diehl Road, Naperville, IL. CAPRC & ITA/GC Members - \$45 (by September 29; \$65 thereafter); Non-members - \$55 (by September 29; \$65 thereafter). For information & registration, please see: <https://www.itagc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/CAPRC-October-Conference.pdf>.
- Oct. 6 - 9 ***QUÉBEC TRADE MISSION***. The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers is leading a multi-sector trade mission to Montréal, Québec. The goal of this mission is to assist small to medium-sized companies from the Great Lakes St. Lawrence region to export products and services to this important market. Each mission participant will receive a customized schedule of B2B meetings with prospective customers and business partners. For information & registration (deadline: **July 11**), please see: <https://www.gsgp.org/projects/international-trade/trade-missions/quebec-trade-mission-2025>.
- Oct. 7 ***BRIDGING THE RISK GAP: LEGAL STRATEGIES FOR SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE***. Program sponsored by Warner Norcross+Judd LLP. Agenda includes: *Crossing Borders: Navigating Global Trade and Regulatory Challenges – USMC*; *Cybersecurity in the Supply Chain*; *Closing the Disruption Gap: Contingency Planning for the Future*; *Immigration and the Supply Chain: Challenges, Impacts and Policy Solutions*. Keynote: **Heather Grondin**, Chief Relations Officer, Windsor-Detroit Bridge Authority. 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Cambria Hotel Detroit Downtown, 600 West Lafayette Boulevard, Detroit, MI. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: [https://communication.wnj.com/35/2028/august-2025/blank--in-person-event---bridging-the-risk-gap--legal-strategies-for-supply-chain-resilience\(2\).asp?sid=bb9f31daf2a-4ae0-bc8e-e53baeb16d0f](https://communication.wnj.com/35/2028/august-2025/blank--in-person-event---bridging-the-risk-gap--legal-strategies-for-supply-chain-resilience(2).asp?sid=bb9f31daf2a-4ae0-bc8e-e53baeb16d0f).
- Oct. 7 ***BUILDING LOCAL, SELLING GLOBAL: FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT AND SUPPLIER SUPPORT TO BOOST U.S. EXPORTS***. Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will describe how SBA's Onshoring Portal and SelectUSA's investment facilitation programs are connecting U.S. manufacturers to new domestic and international opportunities, strengthening supply chains and driving exports. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/05ae0229-64c8-4063-b29e-601541980b15@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 7 ***UNLOCK GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES: EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL SALES THROUGH FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS)***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, is designed to empower U.S. companies with the knowledge and tools to grow their international sales through the U.S. Government's Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program. This session will demystify the FMS process by clearly outlining what it is, and what it is not. You'll gain a practical understanding of how the U.S. Government handles Letters of Request (LORs) and Letters of Offer and Acceptance (LOAs), and how these documents are processed and approved by foreign governments. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0add42a7-2006-4b67-9511-76604058faa8@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 8 ***DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY***. Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss how the Automotive Industry is leveraging AI technologies to grow sales online. The goal is to highlight how companies can enhance their global digital presence using practical tools and services. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/1f2e479f-50d8-45a2-98f0-50c500ad996a@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.

- Oct. 8 ***USING THE PROTOTYPE PROVISION FOR DUTY SAVINGS.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will cover the following topics: *regulatory framework; what a prototype is; requirements for use of this provision; what duties are eliminated; when to declare the provision; common pitfalls of using this provision; best practices for using this provision.* 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/using-the-prototype-provision-for-duty-savings>.
- Oct. 8 ***ADVANCED MANUFACTURING IN AUSTRALIA: THE MARITIME DEFENSE SECTOR OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. COMPANIES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, has been designed for American suppliers of advanced manufactured finished products and advanced manufacturing solutions. We will present practical steps for U.S. firms seeking to do business in Australia by partnering with Australian companies seeking to build innovation and resilience in critical industries. 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: <https://inevent.com/en/TradeGov/AdvancedManufacturinginAustralia/hotsite.php>.
- Oct. 9 ***DIGITAL STRATEGIES FOR RURAL EXPORT SUCCESS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will provide rural business owners the clarity and strategies needed to grow their brand and capture demand in international markets, including: *Digital Advertising tactics for immediate visibility and lead generation in target regions; Proven SEO strategies to drive long-term awareness and traffic in specific markets; How to gain visibility among high-intent buyers in ChatGPT and other AI platforms with Generative Engine Optimization (GEO).* 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/dc64765f-071b-46b3-b1f2-4b699bbc0983@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 9 ***MANUFACTURING FINANCE – A DEEPER DIVE INTO THE LENDING PROGRAMS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss the available government-supported lending programs that support growing manufacturers financing needs. Learn about the available short-term and long-term financing options, eligibility requirements and how to apply for financing. Program will cover ExIm Bank's Make More In America Initiative and SBA's Working Capital & 504 Programs. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/0498d444-7220-40c6-ac68-567320323c34@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 9 ***INTRODUCTION TO CUSTOMS AUDITS: WHAT TO EXPECT.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will discuss current CBP audit methods and what importers may expect. Topics include: *The mission of CBP Regulatory Audit; The Customs Modernization Act: reasonable care, penalties, and prior disclosures; A brief history of CBP audits; The audit planning process and candidate risk factors to consider; The audit process A to Z; Preparing for a CBP audit and consideration for internal controls.* 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-audits-what-to-expect>.
- Oct. 12 - 15 ***BUSINESS DELEGATION TO THE DUSHANBE INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT FORUM 2025.*** The U.S. – Tajikistan Business Council invites the participation of U.S. firms. Benefits include: Individual Meetings Arrangement Services (B2G) and Participation in the US-Tajikistan Business Roundtable with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on Sunday, October 12, 2025; Individual Meetings Arrangement Services (B2B) and Participation in the US-Tajikistan Business Roundtable with the Private Sector and Banking on Monday, October 13, 2025; Participation in the U.S. Embassy Meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025; Nomination to join the Plenary Session of the Dushanbe Investment Forum 2025; Nomination to join the Official Reception of the Dushanbe Investment Forum 2025; Nomination as a Panel Speaker or Moderator of the Dushanbe Investment Forum 2025; Acknowledgement of companies in the USTJBC remarks and marketing material; Registration as a General Participant, Speaker, or Moderator for the Dushanbe Investment Forum 2025. Registration deadline: September 10. For information & registration, please see: <https://form.jotform.com/252154432076149>.

- Oct. 14 **EXPORTING INNOVATION: U.S. COMPOSITES IN ADVANCED MANUFACTURING, DEFENSE & AUTOMOTIVE.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss global demand for U.S.-made composite materials and components and describe how manufacturers can capitalize on export opportunities across advanced manufacturing, defense, and automotive end-use markets. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/c1cb3ba0-60cb-41b4-83f3-29377f41f20f@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 14 **TAKE YOUR LOGISTICS AND TRADE PARTNERSHIPS TO THE NEXT LEVEL.** Luncheon program sponsored by the Madison International Trade Association. Speakers from C.H. Robinson will share insights on how leading organizations are approaching collaboration between logistics and trade — what works, what doesn't, and where companies can start. Learn about real-world examples of building trust, sharing duty mitigation strategies effectively, and aligning priorities and partnerships across the supply chain. 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Goodman Community Center, Brassworks Building, Lau Room, 149 Waubesa Street, Madison, WI. MITA Members - \$55; Non-members - \$80. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.mitatrade.org/events/>.
- Oct. 15 **DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR THE BIOMANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will discuss how the Biomanufacturing Industry is leveraging AI technologies to grow their sales networks online. The goal is to highlight how companies can enhance their global digital presence using practical tools and services. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/36f77dba-fe84-43dd-a4f2-45ad810fceab@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 16 - 17 **STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING UNPRECEDENTED GLOBAL TRADE CHALLENGES.** 24th Annual US-China Trade Conference sponsored by the U.S.-China Chamber of Commerce. Topics include: *Rising Tariffs and Their Implications for U.S. Companies; How Have Tariffs Reshaped the Supply Chain and How Have U.S. Companies Repositioned Themselves; Is It Too Early to Change Your China Strategy; The Future of Chinese Investment in the U.S.; How to Mitigate Risk and Differentiate Products to Achieve Global Market Acceptance; How to Avoid the Perils of Non-Compliance in an Environment of Increasing Enforcement; How to Successfully Enter the Chinese Market and Compete Effectively with Local Brands; Southeast Asia Forum: Will ASEAN be the Next Destination for Sourcing and Market Expansion?; India and South America: Partners or Competitors?; How Can U.S. Companies Benefit from China's Emerging Technologies?; How Cultural Misunderstanding Can Jeopardize Promising Business Ventures. Case Studies; How AI and Robotic Technologies Are Changing the Balance of Manufacturing Power.* 8:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. (Reception follows), Union League Club of Chicago, 65 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. Fees: vary. For information & registration, please see: https://www.usccc.org/_files/ugd/1817b4_05b03d42f9ae492681e2c27bcdada30d.pdf.
- Oct. 16 **NAVIGATING INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS: HOW TO GET PAID USING LETTERS OF CREDIT, DOCUMENTARY COLLECTIONS AND OTHER PAYMENT TERMS.** Workshop, sponsored by the Midwest International Trade Association, covers the full range of payment terms and methods typically used by exporters, and will give you practical knowledge into what is on the horizon for exporters with regard to trade services and trade finance banking. Letters of credit (L/Cs) and documentary draft collections are covered in detail. Global correspondent banking and trade compliance will also be addressed. 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Tiburon Banquet Facility, 10302 South 168th Street, Omaha, NE. MITA Members - \$55; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://mitaonline.org/events/navigating-international-trade-and-payments-workshop/>.

- Oct. 16 **GLOBAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AT CES 2026.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service with the Consumer Technology Association, will provide: *Overview of the U.S. Commercial Service; Regional Updates from select Commercial Service Attaché's; Overview of CES and Consumer Technology Association.* 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/cf3c1a1f-240d-49ea-90ce-93458b115f9f@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 16 **USING INCOTERMS TO GROW AND PROTECT YOUR RURAL EXPORT BUSINESS.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Mohawk Global Logistics, will explain how rural businesses can use Incoterms strategically to increase profits, reduce shipping risks, and strengthen international customer relationships. Learn how to select terms that align with your goals and avoid common pitfalls that can impact your bottom line. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/ef51a761-68c1-47f6-aab3-650481fb5d0f@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 16 **IACAC COMPLIANCE DAY.** Luncheon program sponsored by the International Air Cargo Association of Chicago. Program features updates on regulatory & compliance concerns in the air cargo industry. Speakers include: **Brandon Fried**, Airforwarders Association, Washington DC; **Donna Mullins**, Kale Logistics Solutions; **Braden Core**, Scopelitis, Garvin, Light, Hanson & Feary; **Nathaniel Saylor**, Scopelitis, Garvin, Light, Hanson & Feary; **David King**, David O. King Advisory; **Jodie Maher**, Avalon Risk Management. 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Avalon Risk Management, Inc., 200 North Martingale Road, Schaumburg, IL. IACAC Members - \$70; Non-members \$100. For information & registration, please see: <https://iacac.com/event/iacac-compliance-day/>.
- Oct. 16 **FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE: BUILDING A PRACTICAL EXPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Connecticut District Export Council, will discuss how to turn your Export Management and Compliance Program (EMCP) manual into action. Topics include: *Understand the key components your EMCP should include; Learn practical implementation strategies across different departments or facilities; Align your compliance efforts with the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR); Avoid common pitfalls and strengthen accountability within your organization; Keep your compliance program relevant, actionable, and auditable.* 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$25. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/FromPolicytoPracticeBuildingaPracticalExportCompli/?_gl=1%2A4rfpmk%2A_ga%2AMTQ0MjY3MDMxMC4xNjgwMTE3NjU1%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzY0JGcxJHQxNzU4MDM3MzY4JG02MCRsMCRoMA..%2A_ga_6D3N6M4S6H%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzI5JGcxJHQxNzU4MDM3MzY4JG02MCRsMCRoMA..
- Oct. 19 - **TRADE MISSION TO CENTRAL AMERICA.** Mission, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, includes the Opportunities in Central America Business Conference in Panama City. U.S. trade mission participants will arrive in Panama by October 19 to attend the opening reception of the Opportunities in Central America Business Conference. This event is also open to U.S. companies not participating in the mission's business-to-business matchmaking sessions. On October 20, mission participants will attend the business conference, where they can network and engage in discussions. On October 21, selected participants will engage in business-to-business meetings with local companies in Panama. For those interested, a limited number of participants may opt to travel to up-to two Central American markets - Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Panama - for business appointments. The mission focus is on U.S. companies and trade associations seeking to expand or enter the Central American market in sectors such as: Energy; Infrastructure and construction; Telecommunications and cybersecurity; Medical devices and healthcare; Safety, security, and more. Fees: vary. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/TradeMissionToCentralAmerica/>.

- Oct. 21 ***AI, ROBOTICS, AND AUTOMATION AT THE FRONTIER OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will describe how automation and robotics – with the help of AI – can help manufacturers pioneer the industrial base of tomorrow. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/630dd4b8-b869-4d70-bc36-3dead3d5d42a@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 21 ***EXPORT DOCUMENTATION AWARENESS TRAINING.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Mohawk Global Logistics, will assist businesses to understand the documents used for an export transaction, their function and preparation, terminology, and resources available to exporters. Attendees will learn: *The Role of the international freight forwarder; The differences between a Freight Forwarder and customs broker; HS Codes/Schedule B Numbers, importance of using current codes; Shipper's Letter of Instruction; Parties to the international transaction; AES/ACE filing; Preparing export documents when an export license is required.* 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/6f54e255-6e60-42f1-ab4f-a4d3cbac405d@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 21 ***TARIFFS & TRADE IN TURMOIL [MONTHLY UPDATE].*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will review the latest trade policy developments and offer predictions on what may happen in the near future. Presentation by **J. Nicole Bivens Collinson**, Managing Principal, Operating Committee; International Trade & Government Relations Practice Leader. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$150. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/tariffs-trade-in-turmoil-october-monthly-update>.
- Oct. 21 ***NAVIGATING TRADE: THE BENEFITS OF FREE TRADE ZONES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will highlight benefits of free trade zones (FTZs) for U.S. manufacturers exporting their goods. FTZs are specially designated economic zones where products can be imported, stored, handled, manufactured, reconfigured, and re-exported under specific customs regulations. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/5207f27e-e2f3-4fa6-b0f0-571df9cd3dd7@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 22 ***ADVANCED CLASSIFICATION PART 2.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, covers classifying combinations of all kinds and how to determine the component or function that governs the tariff classification. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/advanced-classification-part-2>.
- Oct. 23 ***IMPORT COMPLIANCE BOOTCAMP.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide a comprehensive overview of import laws, regulations, and best practices to give you the resources and information you need to tackle a variety of trade compliance issues with authority. Topics include: *U.S. Customs and Border Protection administration and enforcement focus; Fundamentals of valuation (related party pricing, handling agents, royalty/license fees, commissions); Classification; Recordkeeping; Country of origin marking; Administrative process (rulings, protests, and penalties); Seizures; Penalties; Customs brokers and bonding; Alternatives to duty payment (bonded warehouses, foreign-trade zones, duty drawback, and Chapter 98); Preference programs and free trade agreements; Strategies to reduce duty liability.* 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/import-compliance-bootcamp>.

- Oct. 24 ***PLAYING TO WIN IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE.*** Tenth Annual Global Small Business Forum sponsored by Global TradeSource Ltd. Speakers include: **Ellen Wheeler**, Partner and Litigation Attorney, Foley & Lardner LLP; **Sebastien Villon**, Managing Partner, BBInc; **Jamie Shah**, President, Chem-Impex International; **Marc Schulman**, President, The Eli's Cheesecake Company; **Diamond Young**, AVP Foreign Exchange | Capital Markets, Associated Bank; **Ken Wasylik**, Managing Director, E.M. Wasylik Associates; **Donald J. Lloyd**, Senior VP, Manager: Capital Markets – Foreign Exchange, Rate Swaps and Commodity Derivatives, Associated Bank; **Dave Shogren**, President and Co-Owner, US International Foods, LLC; **Ashley S.H. Moy**, President, Cast21; **Chris R. Straw**, Founder and President, Team Quality Services; **Danny Park**, CEO and Founder of RoboTHINK LLC. 8:00 – 11:30 a.m., Foley & Lardner, 321 North Clark Street, 30th Floor, Chicago. Fee: Attendee - \$75; Student - \$40; Vendor - \$600. For information & registration, please see: <https://globalsmallbusinessforum.com/>.
- Oct. 25 - ***TRADE MISSION TO RWANDA 2025.*** Sponsored by World Trade Center St. Louis, the mission will visit Kigali, Rwanda. For information & registration, please see: <https://worldtradecenter-stl.com/events-calendar/events/trade-mission-to-rwanda-2025/>.
- Nov. 1
- Oct. 28 ***CRITICAL MINERAL AND MINING PROJECTS IN CANADA & PERU: OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. BUSINESSES.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will explore two strategic markets in the Americas with U.S. embassy officials in Canada and Peru, and learn more about EXIM Bank's Supply Chain Resiliency Initiative. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/3ad836aa-c77f-40de-a00f-0cc6c9b3e4fe@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 29 ***THE AI SHIFT: WINNING BUSINESS WITH SMARTER DIGITAL TOOLS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the International Trade Administration and IBT Online, is designed to help U.S. exporters, manufacturers, and growth-minded companies succeed in a rapidly evolving digital landscape. 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/ecommerce-grow-your-exports?anchor=content-node-t14-field-lp-region-1-3>.
- Oct. 29 ***GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS DINNER.*** 22nd Annual event, sponsored by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, honors: The Right Honourable **Justin Trudeau**, former prime minister of Canada; **Michael Polsky**, Invenergy founder and CEO; **Tanya Polsky**, Polsky Foundation president; and **Regina Cross**, vice president in private wealth management at Goldman Sachs. 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., The Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 East Delaware Place, Chicago. Fee: \$1,000 and up. For information & registration, please see: https://globalaffairs.org/global-leadership-awards-dinner-2025?utm_source=promo&utm_campaign=events&utm_medium=email.
- Oct. 30 ***TRADE & TECH SUMMIT.*** Hybrid event, sponsored by the Washington International Trade Association, will highlight how the conversation on trade and technology is shifting as governments engage each other on issues like non-tariff barriers, digital regulations, digital taxation, and governance over emerging technologies like AI. 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (CDT), Pavilion Room, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. WITA Members - \$50 in-person; \$25 virtual (by October 1; \$100/\$50 thereafter); Non-members - \$100 in-person; \$50 virtual (by October 1; \$200/\$100 thereafter). For information & registration, please see: <https://www.wita.org/events/trade-tech-summit/>.
- Nov. 4 ***TARIFF CLASSIFICATION.*** Seminar sponsored by Global Training Center. Topics include: *The Harmonized System Convention; Overview of Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the U.S.; The Export Schedule B; Classification Process; Extrinsic Interpretive Aids; Duty Determination; Mechanics of Classification.* 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott Chicago O'Hare, 2950 South River Road, Des Plaines, IL. Fee: \$645 (discount available for ITA/GC members; contact info@itagc.org for code). For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/tariff-classification-chicago-nov-4-2025/>.

- Nov. 5 - **2025 ACE EXPORTS COMPLIANCE PROGRAM.** Virtual program sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and the South Florida District Export Council. This two-day program brings together experts from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), U.S. Census Bureau, OFAC, and U.S. Customs & Border Protection to provide training on export filing requirements. Topics include: *Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR) and an update on the latest regulatory changes; Commodity Classification (i.e., Schedule B) guidance and tips and the Global Market Finder; Export Reports feature in ACE to manage your company's filings and compliance; U.S. Export Controls Overview; Automated Commercial Environment (ACE)/Automated Export System (AES) Direct Filings.* 11:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. CST. Fee: \$161.90. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2025-ace-exports-compliance-webinar-tickets-1689487926869>.
- Nov. 5 **USMCA THE MODERNIZED NAFTA.** Seminar, sponsored by Global Training Center, provides the information you need to make decisions that will ensure your compliance with USMCA's rules, U.S. Customs and Border Protection's regulations while benefiting your supply chain and your customers. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott Chicago O'Hare, 2950 South River Road, Des Plaines, IL. Fee: \$645 (discount available for ITA/GC members; contact info@itagc.org for code). For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/usmca-the-modernized-nafta-chicago-nov-5-2025/>.
- Nov. 5 **GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN IN FLUX: IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIANA.** Business Conference & Gala sponsored by the Asia-Pacific Business Association of Indiana. Gala follows afternoon business conference (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.) featuring experts on global trends, industry challenges and policy shifts impacting Indiana and beyond. 2:00 – 8:00 p.m., 630 Intech Way, Indianapolis, IN. APBAI Members – No fee; Non-members - \$45. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/global-supply-chain-in-flux-implications-for-indiana?emailDeliveryId=d025de66-a3c7-45ee-ae1e-748b73972b1b>.
- Nov. 6 **IMPORTING PROCEDURES.** Seminar, sponsored by Global Training Center, focuses on the import entry processes and the fundamental disciplines required for making an entry. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott Chicago O'Hare, 2950 South River Road, Des Plaines, IL. Fee: \$645 (discount available for ITA/GC members; contact info@itagc.org for code). For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/importing-procedures-chicago-nov-6-2025/>.
- Nov. 6 **WEGG 10 YEARS.** Gala event celebrating the 10-year anniversary of Women Entrepreneurs Grow Global. 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Tortoise Supper Club, 350 North State Street, Chicago. Fee: \$100. For information & registration, please see: <https://womenentrepreneursgrowglobal.org/about/10yr-anniversary/>.
- Nov. 7 **INCOTERMS® 2020.** Seminar, sponsored by Global Training Center, will help you understand when the transfer of risk moves from the Seller to the Buyer and who is responsible for insurance. Topics include: *Trade Terms for Domestic and International Transactions; Incoterms® 2020 Product Transportation & Risk of Loss; Maritime Terms; Costing Methods; Mistakes Made: Court Cases Involving Incoterms® 2020 Rules; Case Studies.* 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott Chicago O'Hare, 2950 South River Road, Des Plaines, IL. Fee: \$445 (discount available for ITA/GC members; contact info@itagc.org for code). For information & registration, please see: <https://globaltrainingcenter.com/incoterms-2020-chicago-nov-7-2025/>.
- Nov. 14 **THE 2025 CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL GALA.** Gala event, sponsored by World Business Chicago and Chicago Sister Cities International, welcomes members of the Chicago Consular Corps as distinguished guests. This elegant evening not only showcases Chicago's global reach and commitment to international collaboration but also supports the next generation of leaders through the Chicago Consular Corps Scholarship Fund at the University of Illinois Chicago. 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Navy Pier, Aon Grand Ballroom, 600 East Grand Avenue, Chicago. Individual ticket - \$500. For information & registration, please see: https://worldbusinesschicago.com/gala/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Save%20the%20date%3A%20The%20Chicago%20International%20Gala&utm_campaign=2025%20Gala%20blast.

- Nov. 16 - ***U.S. CYBERSECURITY MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST***. Led by the U.S. Department of
24 Commerce, this business development mission will stop in Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait (optional). The purpose of the mission is to introduce U.S. firms to Middle East's information and communication technology (ICT) security and critical infrastructure protection markets, and to assist them in finding business partners and to export their products and services to the region. This trade mission will also promote the tenets and adoption of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework globally. The mission is intended to include representatives from U.S. companies and U.S. trade associations/organizations with members that provide cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection products and services. For information & an application, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/middle-east-cyber-mission>.
- Nov. 26 ***SMART SHOPIFY STRATEGIES FOR BUSINESS GROWTH***. Webinar, sponsored by the International Trade Administration and IBT Online, offers a step-by-step look at how to boost visibility, drive conversions, and streamline your operations - so you can scale faster with confidence. 12:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.trade.gov/ecommerce-grow-your-exports?anchor=content-node-t14-field-lp-region-1-4>.
- Dec. 1 - ***SOUTHERN CONE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES TRADE MISSION TO CHILE, ARGENTINA, AND***
5 ***URUGUAY***. Organized by the U.S. Department of Commerce, this trade mission will introduce U.S. companies to the dynamic Southern Cone region, whose governments are investing heavily in energy technologies to diversify and develop their economies. Participating U.S. companies will gain market insight on how to increase their exports to the region, visit project sites, and engage with pre-screened buyers, agents, distributors, project developers and potential business partners. This trade mission will include meetings and networking receptions with chambers of commerce, business groups, and national and regional government officials that can address questions on procurements, projects, policies, regulations, tariff rates, and incentives. Targeted subsectors for this energy trade mission include hydrogen and e-fuel technologies, AI & cybersecurity, energy generation (nuclear, solar, wind, and transition fuels), transportation (hydrogen trucks, buses, shipping, rail, and passenger vehicles), energy storage, water and sanitation treatment & management), strategic materials (lithium and copper), and decarbonization technologies. For information & an application, please see: <https://events.trade.gov/TradeGov/SouthernConeEnergyTechTradeMission/>.
- Dec. 1 - ***HONG KONG TRADE MISSION 2025***. IBS Global Consulting, in collaboration with the Hong Kong
6 Trade Development Council (HKTDC), is organizing a U.S. Trade Mission to Hong Kong in conjunction with the 26th Hong Kong Forum, the annual flagship event of the Federation of Hong Kong Business Associations Worldwide. The trade mission offers U.S. businesses firsthand insights into technology trends, market opportunities, and information on conducting business in Hong Kong, one of Asia's most vibrant business hubs. Companies in the following sectors are encouraged to apply: Emerging Technology & Innovation (e.g., MedTech, FoodTech, EdTech, and FinTech); Healthcare (e.g., Medical Devices and Pharmaceuticals); AI and Robotics; ICT and Digitalization; and Financial Services. Fee: \$850.. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.ibsglobalconsulting.com/hong-kong-trade-mission-2025>.
- Dec. 5 - ***SAUDI ARABIA AND UAE TRADE MISSION***. The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers
11 is leading a multi-sector trade mission to Saudi Arabia and UAE. The goal of this mission is 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 with prospective customers and business partners. For information & registration (deadline: **September 5**), please see: <https://gsgp.org/projects/international-trade/trade-missions/saudi-arabia-and-uae-trade-mission-2025/>.

- Dec. 7 - ***U.S. CYBERSECURITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST.*** Led by the
15 U.S. Department of Commerce, the purpose of the mission is to introduce U.S. firms to Middle East's information and communication technology (ICT) security and critical infrastructure protection markets, and to assist them in finding business partners and to export their products and services to the region. This trade mission (to Saudi Arabi, Qatar, Jordan, and Kuwait) will also promote the tenets and adoption of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework globally. The trade mission is intended to include representatives from U.S. companies and U.S. trade associations/organizations with members that provide cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection products and services. For information & an application (deadline: **August 22**), please see: <https://www.trade.gov/middle-east-cyber-mission>.
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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.

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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.