

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

October 13, 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. 29 ***GOVERNMENT & STRATEGIC RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS.*** Panel Discussion & Networking Reception sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**. Panelists include: **U.S. Commercial Service Chicago; U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Manufacturing & Trade; Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM); Illinois Office of Trade & Investment; GloBIS.** This panel brings together senior representatives from federal, state, and strategic partners who will share the scope of their services – and how they work together – to support your international success. Connect directly with the experts who can accelerate your global growth and contribute to your international success. 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (Networking Reception follows), Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont. ITA/GC Members & their guests - \$35; Non-members - \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/government-strategic-resources-for-international-success-tickets-1766313143159>.
- Nov. 5 ***MEXICO IN A WORLD OF TRADE.*** Luncheon and Executive Briefing sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** with the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter. Presentation by Dr. **Ralph A. Biedermann**, Executive Director, United States - Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter and President, The MRB Group who will place today's Mexico commercial environment in an historical context, beginning with the Border Industrialization Program in 1965, and discuss the growth and development of the Maquila Industry. He will discuss Mexico's role in the North American automotive supply chain, nearshoring and today's tariff landscape before offering some strategic projections for the USMCA renegotiation discussions in mid-2026. 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. ITA/GC & USMCoC Members - \$50; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mexico-in-a-world-of-trade-tickets-1765934400329>.

Dec. 5 **HOLIDAY NETWORKING RECEPTION: PUT A LITTLE FA-LA-LA-LA-LA IN YOUR SEASON!**
Twenty-first Annual Holiday Networking Reception & Toy Drive sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** with support from: Central Asian Productivity Research Center. Please join us for a relaxed evening of networking with peers and colleagues from Chicago's international business community. We provide the FA-LA-LA-LA-LA (buffet dinner, music, and a magical, festive atmosphere). **All guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for donation to Toys for Tots.** 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. ITA/GC Members, Sponsors & Friends - \$40; Non-members - \$60. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-networking-reception-Put-A-Little-Fa-La-La-La-La-In-Your-Season-Tickets-1798276837429>.

Of Note:

Global Trade Outlook and Statistics: The just released and [updated October 2025 edition](#) forecast for world merchandise trade volume growth in 2025 has risen to 2.4% (up from the estimate of 0.9% in the interim outlook in August) while the outlook for 2026 has deteriorated to 0.5% (down from the August estimate of 1.8%). The forecast for services trade has also been updated, with commercial services export volume now expected to grow 4.6% in 2025 and 4.4% in 2026, up slightly from the previous estimates last April.

Fees on Chinese Cargo Ships Start Oct. 14: As widely reported, new fees on Chinese-owned or -operated vessels, Chinese-built vessels, and foreign-built vehicle carriers entering U.S. ports will be imposed beginning October 14. These fees are slated to increase significantly at regular intervals over the next three years. The [fees are](#): \$50 per net ton for an arriving vessel owned or operated by a Chinese entity; the higher of a fee in the amount of \$18 per net ton, or \$120 for each container discharged, from an arriving Chinese built vessel; \$14 per net ton for an arriving vessel classified as a vehicle carrier or roll-on/roll-off vessel.

Once Dominant, US Ag Exports Falter amid Trade Disputes, Rising Competition: As reported in *Morning AgClips*, a [new study](#) from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Texas Tech University notes that for most of recent history, the U.S. was a net agricultural exporter. But in the last couple of years, that has reversed, and what used to be a persistent surplus has turned into a persistent and growing deficit. Current projections estimate that the agricultural trade deficit will reach \$49 billion by the end of 2025.

The FDI Shake-up: How Foreign Direct Investment Today May Shape Industry and Trade Tomorrow: McKinsey Global Institute has published a report on what foreign direct investment (FDI) can tell us about global industry in the future. This report explores the shifts underway in FDI and offers foresight for decision-makers as they navigate a high-stakes environment of intensifying economic competition and shifting geopolitical dynamics. Free download [here](#); virtual panel discussion on Oct. 21.

U.S. Imports Seen Well Below Average for Rest of 2025: As reported by [FreightWaves](#), monthly import volumes through major U.S. container ports are expected to slip below the 2 million TEU mark through the remainder of the year, according to Global Port Tracker data report released October 8 by the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates. First-half shipments totaled 12.53 million TEUs, a gain of 3.7% y/y. Full-year volume is forecast at 24.79 million TEUs, off 2.9% from 25.5 million TEUs in 2024.

232 Duties on Wood Products to Be Implemented October 14: Writing in Barnes Richardson's [BRC Trade Express](#), David Forgue summarizes the impact of a September 29 White House [Proclamation](#) imposing duties on certain products of wood. Beginning October 14, softwood lumber imports will face a 10% global tariff, certain upholstered furniture will face a 25% global tariff (increasing to 30% January 1), and kitchen cabinets and vanities will face a 25% global tariff (increasing to 50% January 1).

Tariff Preferences under Africa and Haiti Programs Expire: As the ST&R [Trade Report](#) notes, the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the Haiti HELP/HOPE acts expired Sept. 30, subjecting imports from beneficiary countries to both most-favored-nation duties and "reciprocal" tariffs under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act. For 25 years AGOA provided eligible sub-Saharan African countries with duty-free access to the U.S. for more than 1,800 products in addition to the more than 5,100 products eligible under the Generalized System of Preferences. For a deeper dive, check the Center for Strategic & International Studies' Oge Onubogu's commentary on AGOA's extension [here](#).

The Impact of Tariffs on Investment into the US: FT Locations debuts *fDi Markets'* [new tariff feature](#) in this blog, demonstrating how it tracks shifting corporate strategies and sectoral responses. With trade tensions rising, questions remain about the longer-term impact on global investment patterns. It's becoming apparent that global companies' international investment strategies are changing to become more favorable in line with the US tariffs. US outward investments are also being cancelled as international announcements are becoming increasingly unviable.

Commerce Expands EAR End-User Controls with New “50 Percent Rule”: As Wiley Rein LLP and others have [reported](#), on September 30, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) published an [interim final rule](#) (IFR) that significantly expands the number of foreign entities subject to license requirements and other restrictions based on Entity List and “Military End-User” (MEU) List designations as well as certain sanctions designations. BIS also concurrently released a revised set of “[Entity List FAQs](#)” providing additional guidance.

Navigating the New \$100,000 H-1B Visa Fee: What You Need to Know: As [reported](#) by Plante Moran, the Presidential proclamation requires that a \$100,000 payment accompany any new H-1B visa petitions submitted after 12:01 a.m. on September 21, 2025. The proclamation states that the fee requirement will expire after one year, unless it's extended. It directs the Secretaries of State, Labor, and Homeland Security, along with the Attorney General, to submit a recommendation on extending the fee requirement no later than 30 days after the completion of the H-1B lottery that immediately follows the proclamation.

Soybean Producers Frustrated over US Support for Argentina: *Agri-Pulse* [reported](#) that “Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wednesday that the U.S. will offer financial support to Argentina to prop up its ailing economy, prompting frustration from soybean producers, for whom Argentina is a key competitor.” The news was met with frustration from the U.S. soybean industry. Argentina has emerged as a competitor for U.S. soybeans in international markets and is actively working to position itself as an alternative source for Chinese buyers. To date, China has booked no U.S. soybean orders.

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.

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.

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.

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?

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.

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.

IMPORTANT NOTE: We are informed that all U.S. Commercial Service (CS) hosted programs have been postponed due to a lapse in government funding. Once funding is appropriated, they will make every effort to host previously scheduled CS programs. If the government reopens prior to the event date, the event should take place as scheduled. Registrations will remain open for CS programs if funding is appropriated prior to the date of scheduled programs.

Oct. 14 **YEAR-END INSIGHTS 1: WHAT WE LEARNED IN 2025.** First of a 3-part webinar series (Nov. 18, Dec. 9), sponsored by Star USA, will address: *Key trade policy changes and tariff updates from 2025; Major disruptions and trends that shaped global trade; Lessons learned to guide 2026 planning and strategy.* 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/webinar-1-what-we-learned-in-2025/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025&utm_content=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025+CiD_97b9e9b71c930bc6e0dd2c7fad212d38&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Register%20Here.

Oct. 14 **HYDROGEN ARABIA CONFERENCE PREVIEW.** Webinar, sponsored by the Bilateral Chamber, will offer an insider's look at Saudi Arabia's national hydrogen strategy, the flagship projects driving its clean energy transformation, and the global partnerships shaping its leadership in low-carbon innovation. This will be an exclusive online briefing ahead of the inaugural Hydrogen Arabia Conference, taking place December 8–9 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 9:00 – 9:30 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.bilateralchamber.org/event/hydrogen-arabia-conference-preview>.

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. 14 **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN RULES FOR STRATEGIC IMPORTERS.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide an overview of the rules to determine the correct country of origin and marking for non-preferential purposes. In addition, it will address ways that importers have used origin rules to assess possible strategies to legally reduce or avoid tariffs by changing or shifting portions of the production process to impact the origin of the product. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/country-of-origin-rules-for-strategic-importers>.
- Oct. 15 **A NEW TRADING LANDSCAPE: HOW IS THE WORLD ADJUSTING?** Virtual program, sponsored by the Peterson Institute for International Economics, explores the future of global trade: *Should developing countries consider new trade agreements with other partners, such as the newly concluded free trade agreement between the European Union and Indonesia? Are there any prospects of reform for the World Trade Organization? What consequences can we see for the future of digital trade, where the origins cannot be as easily tracked as for goods?* 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.piie.com/events/2025/new-trading-landscape-how-world-adjusting>.
- Oct. 15 **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/9gw4sxxg>.
- 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. 15 **REDUCING AND ELIMINATING DUTIES THROUGH TARIFF ENGINEERING, INCLUDING 301 AND 232 DUTIES.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will explore how to analyze your existing tariff exposure and the steps you can take to achieve the lowest duty rates available. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/reducing-and-eliminating-duties-through-tariff-engineering-including-301-and-232-duties>.

- Oct. 16 - **STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING UNPRECEDENTED GLOBAL TRADE CHALLENGES.** 24th Annual
17 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 **INTERNATIONAL VALUE ADDED TAX - UNDERSTANDING VAT IN GLOBAL TRADE.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will explore VAT trends in markets around the world, equipping you with practical knowledge to effectively plan for these taxes. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/f62zfma>.

- 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%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzY0JGcxJHoxNzU4MDM3MzY4JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..%2A_ga_6D3N6M4S6H%2AczE3NTgwMzYyODQkbzI5JGcxJHoxNzU4MDM3MzY4JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..
- Oct. 16 **TRADE TARIFFS IN 30 MINUTES.** Webinar, sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at The Turner Center for Entrepreneurship, Bradley University, will cover: *Understanding the four types of U.S. import tariffs; Where to find U.S. import tariff rates; Understanding tariffs applied to U.S. exports and where to find the current rates; Steps you can take to lower tariffs on imports or exports; Resources to support making smart tariff decisions.* 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://theturnercenter.org/event/trade-tariffs-in-30-minutes-webinar/>.
- Oct. 16 **CANADA'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND GLOBAL TRADE: A CONVERSATION WITH GOVERNOR TIFF MACKLEM.** Virtual program, sponsored by the Peterson Institute for International Economics, features a keynote address by **Tiff Macklem**, Governor of the Bank of Canada. Following his remarks, Macklem joins **Adam S. Posen**, PIIE president, for a moderated conversation and will take questions from the audience. 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.piie.com/events/2025/canadas-economic-outlook-and-global-trade-conversation-governor-tiff-macklem>.
- Oct. 17 **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. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/hkj83uu>.
- Oct. 19 - 24 **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. 20 **INCOTERMS 2020.** Webinar, sponsored by the World Trade Research Institute, will cover the basics of Incoterms including the most recent updates from 2020. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$79. For information & registration, please see: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/5teqv9m>.
- 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 **THE FDI SHAKE-UP: HOW FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT TODAY MAY SHAPE INDUSTRY AND TRADE TOMORROW.** Virtual event, sponsored by the McKinsey Global Institute, will explore the findings of the report, *The FDI shake-up: How foreign direct investment today may shape industry and trade tomorrow*, featuring a presentation by the report authors and a panel discussion of leading voices. The session will explore: *How FDI is molding industries of the future, including semiconductors, batteries, and data centers, and the resources that power them; The outsized role of megadeals and how bigger bets increasingly follow geopolitical lines; How to navigate FDI signals and shifts in a high-stakes environment.* 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://events.ringcentral.com/events/the-fdi-shake-up-how-foreign-direct-investment-today-may-shape-industry-and-trade-tomorrow/registration?utm_campaign=dotcom&utm_source=dotcom&cid=mgp_opr-eml-alt-mgi-mgp-glb--&hlkid=95142a60d3db4016bd4c79f3b465c4dd&hctky=1420088&hdpid=6fa79e22-682f-47f9-8cf6-097770834d14.
- 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 **TARIFF EVASION RISKS AND ENFORCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION.** Webinar, sponsored by Thompson Hine, will provide an in-depth analysis of tariff evasion risks and the evolving enforcement landscape in both the United States and the European Union. A panel of international trade experts will explore the most common methods of tariff evasion, recent enforcement trends, and the legal frameworks governing customs compliance on both sides of the Atlantic. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=5080952&sessionid=1&key=6D73A69C97A33827F417BAA686B6C3D7&groupId=6348595&partnerref=smartradeblog&sourcepage=register>.
- Oct. 22 **UNDERSTANDING THE FUTURE OF NORTH AMERICAN TRADE AND SECURITY.** Hybrid event sponsored by the Center for Strategic & International Studies in conjunction with the Center for North American Prosperity and Security. Panelists include: **Christopher Hernandez-Roy**, Deputy Director and Senior Fellow, Americas Program, CSIS; **Tim Sargeant**, Director for Domestic Affairs, MacDonald-Laurier Institute and former Deputy Minister of Trade and Deputy Minister of Finance, Canada; **Karen Antebi**, Director, International Practice Chair, Prime Policy Group and former Mexican trade negotiator; **Philip Luck**, Director, Economics Program and Scholl Chair in International Business, CSIS. 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.csis.org/events/understanding-future-north-american-trade-and-security>.
- Oct. 22 **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/34r39dw>.
- Oct. 22 **PRESERVE YOUR RIGHT TO POTENTIAL TARIFF REFUNDS: STEPS TO TAKE NOW.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide an overview of the Supreme Court IEEPA case, forecast possible outcomes, and provide step by step instruction on how to adjust ACE reports to prepare for refund claims. 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$150. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/preserve-your-right-to-potential-tariff-refunds-steps-to-take-now>.
- 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. 22 **UNDERSTANDING U.S. CUSTOMS VALUATION IN THE BIOPHARMA AND LIFE SCIENCES INDUSTRY.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, provides an overview of basic U.S. customs law valuation principles and highlights specific areas relevant to the biopharma and life sciences industry. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/understanding-u-s-customs-valuation-in-the-biopharma-and-life-sciences-industry>.
- Oct. 22 **AI & REASONABLE CARE: MEETING IMPORTER & BROKER OBLIGATIONS WITH CONFIDENCE.** Webinar, sponsored by American Association of Exporters & Importers, will: *Review the obligations importers and brokers must meet under CBP's "reasonable care" standard; Share practical examples of AI-enabled due diligence and documentation management; Offer strategies for balancing human expertise with AI-driven insights to strengthen compliance programs; Share resources, certifications, etc. in this area.* 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://events.zoom.us/jv/Apw6Psa-wPDFalJziGtHpkhGMbK7OcQ_vX6o3XLcAgpwXDwBP0x1~AsbL8C3P3qudynXIOUhsSn7VfG_EYwUNaO6tiJEHKGGA-T6YzFhNQ1zg2UA.

- 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. 27 **CROSSING NORTH: YOUR 2025 GUIDE TO CANADIAN TRADE.** Hybrid event, sponsored by the International Trade Council of Greater Kansas City, will cover the basics of how the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) assesses and collects duties and taxes on commercial goods imported into Canada using the CBSA Assessment and Revenue Management (CARM) system. This overview will include a general summary of the CARM program, registration, broker delegation, and paying your duties and taxes to the government of Canada. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. ITCGKC Members – No fee; Non-members - \$15. For information & registration, please see: <https://itcgkc.org/event-6306926>.
- 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. 28 **BIOPHARMA & LIFE SCIENCES CLINICAL TRIAL VALUATION FOR U.S. CUSTOMS PURPOSES.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide an overview of basic U.S. customs law valuation principles and highlights specific areas relevant for clinical trials. 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$150. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/biopharma-life-sciences-clinical-trial-valuation-for-u-s-customs-purposes>.

- Oct. 29 ***COMPLYING WITH THE “MADE IN THE USA” STANDARD FOR MANUFACTURERS.*** Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and the Federal Trade Commission. During this session, you will hear the U.S. Commercial Service’s Northern California Acting Director **Gabriela Zelaya** share a brief overview of the U.S. Commercial Service and its resources to assist U.S. manufacturers develop partnerships by tapping the CS global network. You will also hear from the Federal Trade Commission “Made in the USA” program manager, **Michelle Schaefer**, about FTC’s “Made in the USA” advertising and labeling requirements, enforcement, and recommended best practices. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/e92a0b5d-d6a0-4360-9a17-cce9de9bc89f@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/e-commerce-grow-your-exports?anchor=content-node-t14-field-lp-region-1-3>.
- Oct. 29 ***MADE IN AMERICA: BUILDING SUPPLY CHAINS WITH U.S. MANUFACTURING PARTNERS.*** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, will help you: Learn proven strategies for identifying and vetting top-tier U.S. manufacturers; Navigate the challenges of local sourcing with expert insights; Build mutually beneficial partnerships that drive growth and innovation; Discuss real-world success stories from businesses that have mastered domestic supplier networks. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.gcc.teams.microsoft.com/event/3450f59a-a325-4cb1-ad33-9ca72efb7e6e@a1d183f2-6c7b-4d9a-b994-5f2f31b3f780>.
- Oct. 29 ***MEETING CBP’S INFORMED COMPLIANCE & REASONABLE CARE STANDARDS.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, explains the requirements of informed compliance and reasonable care and how importers can best meet their obligations. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/meeting-cbp-s-informed-compliance-reasonable-care-standards>.
- Oct. 29 ***GOVERNMENT & STRATEGIC RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS.*** Panel Discussion & Networking Reception sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**. Panelists include: **U.S. Commercial Service Chicago; U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of Manufacturing & Trade; Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM); Illinois Office of Trade & Investment; GloBIS.** This panel brings together senior representatives from federal, state, and strategic partners who will share the scope of their services – and how they work together – to support your international success. Connect directly with the experts who can accelerate your global growth and contribute to your international success. 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (Networking Reception follows), Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont. ITA/GC Members & their guests - \$35; Non-members - \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/government-strategic-resources-for-international-success-tickets-1766313143159>.
- Oct. 29 ***CHICAGO RIVER VIP NETWORKING CRUISE.*** Event, sponsored by the Chicago Propeller Club, will bring together senior professionals from across the maritime industry including Great Lakes, ocean, inland waterways and leisure marine. 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Wendella West Docks (3 & 4), Chicago. CPC Members - \$55; Non-members - \$85. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-river-vip-networking-cruise-chicago-propeller-club-tickets-1718494807229>.

- 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/>.
- Oct. 30 **CLAIMING USMCA: MORE THAN JUST VALUE CONTENT.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will provide an overview of how the USMCA qualification rules work and tips for maintaining your paper trail to help your entries stand up to a new era of enhanced scrutiny. 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/claiming-usmca-more-than-just-value-content>.
- 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 **EXPORT-READY AND RESILIENT: PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF PROCESSING & PACKAGING IN THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN.** Webinar, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service, features the FBI as they share the insider threats and practical examples that can compromise processing and packaging operations. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://events.trade.gov/en/TradeGov/Export-ReadyandResilientSecuringProcessingPackagin/index.php?_gl=1%2A1u5jmal%2A_ga%2AOTMwNzAwNi4xNzQ5ODQ4NjUz%2A_ga_L884J52XQ5%2AczE3NTg3NDI0NzYkbzE1JGcxJHQxNzU4NzQyNjE2JGo2MCRsMCRoMA..%2A_ga_6D3N6M4S6H%2AczE3NTg3NDI0NzYkbzE1JGcxJHQxNzU4NzQyNTU4JGo0NCRsMCRoMA.
- Nov. 5 **PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CHAIN: YOUR SECRET GROWTH AND PROFITABILITY WEAPON.** Webinar sponsored by Women Entrepreneurs Grow Global. Presentation by **Fre Rammeloo**, CEO, Dexter GBS Inc. who will share how to: *Procurement: Ensure robust contracts with your suppliers and utilize them to support your business goals, financially and otherwise; Supply Chain: A data driven, optimized supply chain does not only delight customers, it also prevents from incurring a lot of hidden, significant costs; Growth: Savings in procurement and supply chain can fuel growth, from investment in pricing through to investment in clever technology including AI.* 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3200940482594992471?mc_cid=6db433bdc0&mc_eid=6499c7d108.
- Nov. 5 **MEXICO IN A WORLD OF TRADE.** Luncheon and Executive Briefing sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** with the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter. Presentation by Dr. **Ralph A. Biedermann**, Executive Director, United States - Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter and President, The MRB Group who will place today's Mexico commercial environment in an historical context, beginning with the Border Industrialization Program in 1965, and discuss the growth and development of the Maquila Industry. He will discuss Mexico's role in the North American automotive supply chain, nearshoring and today's tariff landscape before offering some strategic projections for the USMCA renegotiation discussions in mid-2026. 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. ITA/GC & USMCoC Members - \$50; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mexico-in-a-world-of-trade-tickets-1765934400329>.
- Nov. 5 **CUSTOMS VALUATION IN PRACTICE.** Webinar, sponsored by Thompson Hine, will review the methods of valuation, common pitfalls, and recent developments in CBP enforcement, and provide strategies for documenting and defending valuation decisions. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=5080952&sessionid=1&key=6D73A69C97A33827F417BAA686B6C3D7&groupId=6348595&partnerref=smartradeblog&sourcepage=register>.
- 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. 6 **GUY FAWKES CELEBRATION 2025.** Event sponsored by the British-American Business Council. Food, beverages and live entertainment will be provided, along with sparklers for fun photo opportunities and a fire pit. 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., 1941 North Elston Avenue, Chicago. BABC Members - \$25; Non-members - \$50. For information & registration, please see: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/hvvd3t?source_id=6df970c7-3024-40be-966e-ceda9334369b&source_type=em&c=OR0mjbP9b-SIwmsEJa2i22KTtnpxZLhA9RSbxy9JKgOSZWm-LVeydg==.
- 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. 7 **MASTERING TARIFF MANAGEMENT: THE ESSENTIAL TOOLS.** Webinar, sponsored by the Massachusetts Export Center, will zero in on essential tools for tariff management, including: *leveraging the provisions of Chapter 98 of HTS that allow for tariff mitigation under specific circumstances; using duty drawback to reclaim up to 99% of the duties paid on imported goods that are subsequently exported; and re-assessing customs valuation practices to ensure that the correct valuation methods are used, along with taking advantage of all available deductions and exclusions.* 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. CST. Compliance Alliance Members – No fee; Non-members - \$25. For information & registration, please see: <https://clients.msbd.org/workshop.aspx?ekey=170450012>.
- Nov. 13 **PASSPORT TO FRANCE.** Event, sponsored by the French-American Chamber of Commerce, includes a vibrant culinary cocktail evening featuring signature bites from top chefs, artisan specialties, and a curated selection of wines, spirits, and beverages. Enjoy it all in a lively atmosphere, with a silent auction and raffle. 6:00 – 10:00 p.m., Artifact, 4325 North Ravenswood Avenue, Chicago. FACC Members - \$135; Non-members - \$150. For information & registration, please see: <https://cbo.io/bidapp/index.php?slug=p2f>.
- 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 - 24 **U.S. CYBERSECURITY MISSION TO THE MIDDLE EAST.** Led by the U.S. Department of 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. 18 **YEAR-END INSIGHTS 2: WHAT'S CHANGING & WHAT TO WATCH.** Second in a 3-part webinar series (Oct. 14, Dec. 9), sponsored by Star USA, will address: *Emerging trends in manufacturing and global sourcing; Anticipated changes to free trade agreements and customs rules; Strategic insights for 2026 trade compliance planning.* 9:00 – 10:00 am. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/webinar-2-whats-changing-what-to-watch/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025&utm_content=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025+CID_97b9e9b71c930bc6e0dd2c7fad212d38&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20%20register.
- Nov. 19 **DUTY DRAWBACK OPPORTUNITIES.** Webinar, sponsored by Thompson Hine, will provide an overview of the program, compliance requirements, practical considerations for maximizing refunds and share tips for streamlining the claims process. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=5080952&sessionid=1&key=6D73A69C97A33827F417BAA686B6C3D7&groupId=6348595&partnerref=smarttradeblog&sourcepage=register>.
- 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 - 5 **SOUTHERN CONE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES TRADE MISSION TO CHILE, ARGENTINA, AND 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 - 6 **HONG KONG TRADE MISSION 2025.** IBS Global Consulting, in collaboration with the Hong Kong 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. 3 **LEVERAGING CHAPTER 98 PROVISIONS.** Webinar, sponsored by Thompson Hine, will explore key sections, qualification criteria, and documentation best practices. Participants will learn how to identify opportunities and ensure compliance while reducing duty exposure. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=reg20.jsp&eventid=5080952&sessionid=1&key=6D73A69C97A33827F417BAA686B6C3D7&groupId=6348595&partnerref=smarttradeblog&sourcepage=register>.

- 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. 5 **HOLIDAY NETWORKING RECEPTION: PUT A LITTLE FA-LA-LA-LA-LA IN YOUR SEASON!**
Twenty-first Annual Holiday Networking Reception & Toy Drive sponsored by the **International Trade Association of Greater Chicago** with support from: Central Asian Productivity Research Center. Please join us for a relaxed evening of networking with peers and colleagues from Chicago's international business community. We provide the FA-LA-LA-LA-LA (buffet dinner, music, and a magical, festive atmosphere). **All guests are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy for donation to Toys for Tots.** 6:00 – 8:30 p.m., Carlucci Rosemont, 6111 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. ITA/GC Members, Sponsors & Friends - \$40; Non-members - \$60. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-networking-reception-Put-A-Little-Fa-La-La-La-La-In-Your-Season-Tickets-1798276837429>.
- 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>.
- Dec. 9 **YEAR-END INSIGHTS 3: HOW TO PREPARE FOR 2026.** Last of a 3-part webinar series (Oct. 14, Nov. 18), sponsored by Str USA, will address: *Leveraging compliance to drive business impact; Strategies for finding and developing trade talent; Key tools and planning insights for success in 2026.* 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://starusa.org/events/webinar-3-how-to-prepare-for-2026/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025&utm_content=October%20Webinar%20What%20We%20Learned%20in%202025+CID_97b9e9b71c930bc6e0dd2c7fad212d38&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Learn%20more%20%20register.
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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.