

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

October 27, 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 financial support from **The Anderson Law Firm** and **Boomerang Carnets**, and collaborative support from: Central Asian Productivity Research Center, **OWIT-CMC** and **U.S. – Mexico Chamber of Commerce, Mid-America Chapter**. 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:

Department of Commerce Announces American AI Exports Program Implementation: On October 21 the Commerce Department announced the implementation of the [American AI Exports Program](#). The program will select industry-led export packages that will include AI hardware, software, models, and applications across industry sectors for promotion to countries and regions around the world. The American AI Exports Program commences with industry engagement, including a [Request for Information](#) to invite public comments from U.S. and global technology companies.

Ranked: The World's Largest Economies in 2026: The Visual Capitalist presents this fascinating graphic on the [projected size of world economies](#) in 2026. The American economy is expected to reach \$31.8 trillion in GDP by 2026. This is roughly the size of China (2nd - \$20.6 trillion), Germany (3rd - \$5.3 trillion), and India (4th - \$4.5 trillion) combined.

US, Australia Sign Framework for Critical Mineral Supply Chain: The U.S. and Australia launched a multi-billion-dollar initiative to build a supply chain for critical minerals essential to their military and domestic industries, reports *Supply Chain Dive*. U.S. President Donald Trump and Australia Prime Minister Anthony Albanese signed a non-binding [framework for collaboration](#) that includes joint public and private investments in the mining and processing of critical minerals.

When a Trade War Becomes a Food Fight: In a [Commentary](#) for the Center for Strategic & International Studies, Philip Luck, Hugh Grant-Chapman, and Duc Minh Nguyet (Moon) Nguyen observe current international trends are taking a heavy toll on the U.S. agricultural sector. U.S. agricultural exports to China have dropped by over \$6.8 billion since January 2025, a staggering decline of over 73 percent. Nowhere is this collapse in exports playing out more dramatically than in the U.S. soybean industry, where soybean exports to China have dropped from more than \$24 billion in 2024 to zero this year.

Argentinian Beef Import Plan Harms Cattle Producers: As reported in [Morning AgClips](#), The Illinois Beef Association joined with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) responding to comments from President Donald J. Trump that suggested importing Argentinian beef as a solution to lower beef prices. NCBA's family farmers and ranchers are concerned that rewarding Argentina with this expanded access to the U.S. market harms American cattlemen and women, while also interfering with the free market.

Port of Los Angeles, Long Beach See Declines after Record Summer: Container volumes at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach slipped in September, reports [Supply Chain 24/7](#), signaling softer import demand heading into the final quarter of 2025. Los Angeles fell 7.5% and Long Beach 3.9%, with leaders pointing to tariffs and shifting trade policies as major headwinds.

Prime Time for Cargo Theft: \$18M Vanishing Every Day: As reported in [Overdrive](#) (and elsewhere), a [new report](#) from the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) reveals the true costs and impacts of cargo theft. Annualized cost to trucking ATRI pegged at a whopping \$6.6 billion – more than \$18 million per day. Motor carrier respondents to an ATRI survey that underlies data in the report showed more than \$16M of cargo losses in 555 separate incidents during 2023, with an average loss per incident of around \$29,000. For brokers and other LSPs the issue is even more stark: \$33 million reported lost by survey respondents in 2023, with an average loss of nearly \$100K per theft.

Global Economic Outlook Shows Modest Change amid Policy Shifts and Complex Forces: The [IMF Blog](#) reports that the global growth downgrade is not as severe as predicted six months ago. As a result, the increase in tariffs and its effect has been smaller than expected so far. We now project global growth at 3.2 percent this year and 3.1 percent next year, a cumulative downgrade of 0.2 percentage point since our forecast a year earlier.

WTO Launches New Monthly Merchandise Trade Statistics Interactive Tool: The new WTO Monthly Merchandise Trade Statistics [interactive tool](#) provides access to bilateral trade data for over 120 economies and more than 200 of their trading partners across 72 product categories. The tool, contained in the WTO's Tariff and Trade Data portal, is updated weekly and draws on statistics from Trade Data Monitor (TDM), which sources trade data from government offices and agencies across the world.

USTR Enforces Shipbuilding Modifications, while China Retaliates with Vessel Charges: The tit-for-tat trade war continues on the shipbuilding front. While acknowledging that the U.S. builds fewer than five commercial ships per year, whereas China builds more than 17,000, the USTR has proposed [amended and additional fees](#) on Chinese vessels, maintaining China is taking unfair, non-market practices related to shipbuilding, maritime logistics, and other sectors.

DHL: Global Trade Has Flourished even as U.S. Tariffs Rocked American Trade: A [study](#) from DHL and New York University's Stern School of Business reveals global trade grew faster in the first half of 2025 than in any half-year since 2010, excluding the pandemic rebound. Overall, the study concluded that global trade is projected to keep growing, forecasting a 2.5% annualized growth rate in global trade volumes from 2025 to 2029—roughly matching the pace of the previous decade.

Ranked: The World's Top 30 Countries by Exports: The [Visual Capitalist](#) ranks the world's biggest exporters. China accounted for 14.6% of global exports of goods in 2024, the highest share overall. Vietnam, Hong Kong SAR, and France each saw double-digit export growth, while exports contracted the sharpest in Australia. Despite being a primary target of U.S. tariffs, China has deepened trade ties across Africa, Southeast Asia, and Europe in 2025.

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.

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.

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](#).

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.

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?

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. 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 **WHEN BUSINESS AND POLITICS COLLIDE: LESSONS FROM NIPPON STEEL.** Virtual panel discussion, sponsored by the Center for Strategic & International Studies, will discuss the many questions arising from Nippon Steel's acquisition of U.S. Steel. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://pardot.csis.org/webmail/906722/3834785667/9f8037ddfb029fc0f4da2340c7dcab9d1310ba568a8733eab7534812954b711f>.
- Oct. 29 **2025 NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTER SUMMIT.** Virtual event, sponsored by NASBITE International, brings together the top small and medium-sized exporters, trade professionals and trade assistance providers from across the United States, providing them with an opportunity to exchange and share best practices and lessons learned that have contributed to their export success. Attendees will gain insight into powerful tools, techniques and resources that outstanding exporters from across the country have used to guide export growth and success within their businesses. Information will be shared that Summit attendees can adapt/adopt within their own business settings to support business growth and development. Panel sessions include: *From Reaction to Action: Strategic Planning Amid Tariff Uncertainty*; *The US-Canada Trade Environment*; *Innovative Approaches to Export: The Peruvian Story*. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CDT. NASBITE Members - \$100; Non-members - \$125. For information & registration, please see: <https://nasbite.starchapter.com/meetinginfo.php?id=8&ts=1745959271>.
- 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 ***ATA CARNET CLAIMS: EXPERT TIPS FOR SMOOTH RESOLUTION.*** Webinar, sponsored by Roanoke Insurance Group, will share their knowledge and experience on how to navigate the complexities of ATA Carnet claims, ensuring compliance with regulations and minimizing potential risks. Attendees will take away valuable insights and practical tips to improve their ATA Carnet claims management and overall international trade operations. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://infospot.roanokegroup.com/acton/fs/blocks/showLandingPage/a/5777/p/p-0127/t/page/fm/0?sid=TV2:liiCM7vBL#utm_medium=email&utm_source=Act-On+Software&utm_content=email&utm_term=Default&utm_campaign=Insights%20on%20how%20to%20navigate%20ATA%20Carnet%20claims%20like%20a%20pro..
- Oct. 29 ***OCTOBER MARKET UPDATE: NAVIGATING GLOBAL FREIGHT TRENDS.*** Webinar, sponsored by A.N. Deringer, will unpack the latest developments across key global trade routes, share updates on capacity, rates, and regulatory changes, and provide strategic guidance to help you stay ahead in a dynamic market environment. 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://web.cvent.com/hub/events/71b30c2c-7a67-4a84-8136-49f1a4389493/landing>.
- 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 **THE RESILIENCY AND GROWTH PLAYBOOK: EMEA AND ASIA.** First of a two-part webinar, sponsored by FT Locations, will discuss the latest global FDI data trends and sectoral opportunities, and how the new global trade order and geopolitics have affected the day-to-day activities and experiences on the ground of economic development and investment promotion agencies. 3:00 – 4:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://attractinvestment.ftlocations.com/?xnpe_tifc=OI1XhkHJx.LLxI_jhfxX4jpsafeWaeiWhFWZVkeJakpWa_BWEke9bZ8vVuESOkhNx.o8xDPubdh.bDbj41TT&utm_source=exponea&utm_campaign=FTL%20-%20Fortnightly%20Marketing%20-%20Email%20-%202016.10.25%20%28I%26O%29&utm_medium=email.
- Oct. 30 **TRADE & TECH SUMMIT.** Hybrid event, sponsored by the Washington International Trade **NEW DATE – SEE DECEMBER 8** ation on trade and technology is shifting as governments 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 **HUBSPOT FOR GLOBAL GROWTH: AUTOMATING LEADS, SALES, AND MARKET EXPANSION.** Webinar, sponsored by IBT Online and the National Association of District Export Councils, will discuss how to automate lead generation, streamline sales, and drive market expansion - powered by AI-driven digital strategies and global growth expertise. 10:00 a.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://info.ibt.onl/webinar-hubspot-for-global-growth-automating-leads-sales-and-market-expansion>.
- Oct. 30 **THE RESILIENCY AND GROWTH PLAYBOOK: THE AMERICAS.** Last of a two-part webinar, sponsored by FT Locations, will discuss the latest global FDI data trends and sectoral opportunities, and how the new global trade order and geopolitics have affected the day-to-day activities and experiences on the ground of economic development and investment promotion agencies. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://attractinvestment.ftlocations.com/?xnpe_tifc=OI1XhkHJx.LLxI_jhfxX4jpsafeWaeiWhFWZVkeJakpWa_BWEke9bZ8vVuESOkhNx.o8xDPubdh.bDbj41TT&utm_source=exponea&utm_campaign=FTL%20-%20Fortnightly%20Marketing%20-%20Email%20-%202016.10.25%20%28I%26O%29&utm_medium=email.
- 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 **WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH JAPANESE.** Webinar, sponsored by Japan Intercultural Consulting, will address: *Japanese communication style; Why Japanese tend to be vague/indirect – how to interpret what they mean; Why Japanese don't give a lot of feedback; Overcoming the language barrier; How to confirm whether you've been understood correctly; How decisions are made in Japanese organizations; Why Japanese avoid risk; How to get your ideas accepted by a Japanese organization; How to make meetings with Japanese more effective; How to build strong working relationships with Japanese; How to behave appropriately at meals and other social situations; What to keep in mind if you travel to Japan for business; What most bothers Japanese about the Americans they work with.* 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST. Fee: \$325. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/working-effectively-with-japanese-online-seminar-tickets-1704423098369>.
- 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. 4 **TARIFF MITIGATION STRATEGIES: A DEEP DIVE INTO WHAT'S POSSIBLE.** Webinar, sponsored by the International Compliance Professionals Association, will discuss: *Tariff Engineering; Reclassification & Valuation; First Sale-for-Export Principle; Duty Drawback Programs; Temporary Importation under Bond; Foreign Trade Zones.* 10:30 a.m. CST. ICPA Members - \$35; Non-members - \$75. For information & registration, please see: <https://web.cvent.com/event/9667caea-1fab-4841-8d32-77fbc50fb0dc/summary>.
- Nov. 4 **ADVANCED CLASSIFICATION PART 2.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, covers **NEW DATE** nations of all kinds and how to determine the component or function that governs classification. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST. Fee: \$400. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/advanced-classification-part-2>.
- 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 **THE IEPPA TARIFF CASE BEFORE THE U.S. SUPREME COURT: WHERE WE STAND AFTER ORAL ARGUMENTS.** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, will take place after the oral arguments, allowing us to provide analysis and commentary on what was said in court and what it could mean moving forward. The expedited schedule of the case raises the possibility of a ruling before year-end and all affected importers should take steps to preserve their right to potential refunds should the court uphold lower court decisions against the tariffs. 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. CST. Fee: \$100. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/the-ieepa-tariff-case-before-the-u-s-supreme-court-where-we-stand-after-oral-arguments>.
- 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-SIwmsEJa2i22KTmpxZLhA9RSbxy9JKgOSZWm-LVeydg==.
- Nov. 6 **CAREER CONNECT: INTERNATIONAL TRADE JOB FAIR.** Event, sponsored by OWIT – CMC, is created to connect students and professionals with career opportunities in global business and international trade. Law students, recent graduates, and industry professionals are all welcome. Employers from various sectors, including Big 4 consulting firms, law firms, and private companies with in-house trade and compliance roles, will be present to share opportunities and meet potential candidates. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Location – TBA. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/career-connect-international-trade-job-fair-tickets-1788141863449>.
- 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?key=170450012>.

- Nov. 12 ***PROTECTING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IN GLOBAL MARKETS.*** Program, sponsored by the Madison International Trade Association, will break down the complexities of navigating global IP laws — from patentability and trademark protection to royalty structures and cross-border enforcement. Learn how to structure licensing agreements that meet country-specific legal and tax requirements while minimizing risk in today’s global markets. You’ll also learn how current trade agreements and tariff environments impact IP commercialization. 3:00 – 7:00 p.m., DeWitt Law Firm Madison Office, 25 West Main Street, Suite 800, Madison, WI. MITA Members - \$35; Non-members - \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://events.mitatrade.org/events/Details/protecting-intellectual-property-rights-in-global-markets-1518917?sourceTypeId=Website>.
- Nov. 13 ***TRANSPORTATION & LOGISTICS CUSTOMER FORUM.*** Sponsored by the Traffic Club of Chicago and hosted by Loyola University Chicago – Corboy Law Center, the program features four panel discussions: *Shippers*; *Leaders in Logistics*; *Future of Freight Technology*; *Solve for X*. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Loyola University Chicago – Corboy Law Center (Kasbeer Hall, 15th Floor), 25 East Pearson Street, Chicago. TCC Members - \$200; Non-members - \$300; Students/Educators - \$100. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.traffic-club.org/event/meeting/1234/transportation-logistics-forum>.
- Nov. 13 ***U.S.-CHINA COMPETITION IN 4 TECHNOLOGIES: AI, QUANTUM, BIOTECHNOLOGY & SEMICONDUCTORS.*** Webinar, sponsored by American Leadership Initiative, features a conversation with four leading experts on four critical technologies: **Melanie Hart**, Senior Director, Global China Hub, Atlantic Council; **William Hannas**, Lead Analyst, Center for Security and Emerging Technology, Georgetown University; **Constanza M. Vidal Bustamante**, Fellow, Technology and National Security Program, Center for a New American Security; **Jimmy Goodrich**, Senior Adviser for Technology Analysis, RAND Corporation. 8:00 a.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_TfkOFA1_QsKknttmPIJrsg#/registration.
- Nov. 13 ***CASTILLA Y LEÓN: YOUR STRATEGIC GATEWAY TO EUROPE.*** Luncheon program, sponsored by the Castilla y León Investment Agency, to introduce Castilla y León as a prime investment destination and strategic gateway to Europe. The event will feature presentations from key stakeholders — including representatives of the Castilla y León Government and success stories from international companies already established in the region. It will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about the region’s strong industrial base, skilled workforce, and business-friendly environment. The event will conclude with a networking lunch-cocktail, where guests will enjoy traditional products from Castilla y León such as *jamón ibérico*, regional cheeses, and Ribera del Duero wine. 11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The St. Regis, Chicago, 401 East Wacker Drive, Chicago. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please contact: isabel.vinagre@pl-global.com.
- Nov. 13 ***TARIFF CLASSIFICATION OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES.*** Webinar, sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, provides practical insights on what constitutes a part and an accessory for tariff purposes, and how to classify them successfully. 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. CST. Fee: \$300. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/tariff-classification-of-parts-and-accessories>.
- Nov. 13 ***CLOSING LOOPHOLES: HOW THE BIS 50% RULE IS CHANGING EXPORT COMPLIANCE.*** Webinar, sponsored by the American Association of Exporters & Importers, will examine the changes and challenges introduced by this new rule and discuss its impacts. This session will help demystify the new “50% Rule,” highlight parallel enforcement challenges for importers, and provide actionable guidance for strengthening compliance programs. Presentation by **Michael Ford**, TradeBridge Consulting. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://events.zoom.us/jv/AodL2WRST0HEc-4OUCfRWZs6eGzM6Wpn5fw3QFTpS4Mvsh8fA76-AuPz-u-y270cXdhP2ARWyXCgi_EjRggIS_ny2bMesWD0V1tlluUjybl2JA.

- Nov. 13 **USMCA 2026: RENEGOTIATING NORTH AMERICA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE.** Hybrid event sponsored by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. A distinguished panel discusses what's to come for the continent's most vital trade relationship. Panelists include: **Heather Hurlburt**, Associate Fellow, US and the Americas Program, Chatham House; **Eric Miller**, President, Rideau Potomac Strategy Group; **Orlando Pérez Gárate**, Partner, Tsuru; **Robert Gulotty** (Moderator), Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago. 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. CST, Chicago Council Conference Center, 130 East Randolph Street, Chicago. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://globalaffairs.org/events/usmca-2026-renegotiating-north-americas-economic-future?utm_source=promo&utm_campaign=events&utm_medium=email.
- 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 ROLE OF USMCA IN GREAT POWER COMPETITION.** Webinar, sponsored by the Washington International Trade Association, features an online panel discussion on the importance of USMCA to North American competitiveness, including in relation to great power competition with China. Speakers will discuss the agreement's geopolitical significance, its evolution as a trade agreement, and the challenges and opportunities it presents amid growing great power competition. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.wita.org/events/usmca-power-competition/>.
- Nov. 14 **FTZ USAGE SURGES.** Luncheon program sponsored by the Central Asian Productivity Research Center. Speakers include **Larry Bajmakovich**, Solutions Team, BDG International, and **Muhammad Haikal Samsudin**, Deputy Director, Malaysia Investment Development Authority. 11:30 a.m., Wolf's Head Restaurant, 6937 Joliet Road, Indian Head Park, IL. Fee: \$35 (by November 10; \$45 thereafter). For information & registration, please contact: lepinske@sbcglobal.net.
- 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. 18 **COST SAVINGS OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROPER CLASSIFICATION: FOUNDATIONS, APPLICATIONS, COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT.** Webinar, sponsored by the American Association of Exporters & Importers, will explore the foundations, challenges, and enforcement risks of classification covering HTS codes, tariffs, special provisions, and enforcement—to equip trade professionals and their colleagues with the knowledge and tools needed for confident compliance. Topics include: *Foundations: The Role of Classification in Global Trade; Applications: Navigating Derivatives, Tariffs, and Special Provisions; Enforcement: Reasonable Care, Audits, and Compliance Risks.* 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. CST. AAEI Members - \$299; Non-members - \$400. For information & registration, please see: https://americanassociationofexportersimportersaaei.growthzoneapp.com/ap/Events/Register/v5FKb2kiKCyCRG06q?utm_source=Email&utm_medium=1007SA&utm_campaign=TradeFocusWebinar.
- 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=smartradeblog&sourcepage=register>.
- Nov. 19 **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. CST. Fee: \$150. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.strtrade.com/training/events/upcoming-webinars/tariffs-trade-in-turmoil-november-monthly-update>
- Nov. 20 **HAPPY HOUR: NETWORKING EVENT FOR GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK.** Event sponsored by the International Trade Council of Greater Kansas City. 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., River Bluff Brewery, 201 Main Street, Suite 101, Kansas City, MO. Snacks, networking & cash bar. No fee; advance registration appreciated. For information & registration, please see: <https://itcgkc.org/event-6385212>.
- 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/e-commerce-grow-your-exports?anchor=content-node-t14-field-lp-region-1-4>.

- Dec. 1 - ***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 - ***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. 2 ***PRODUCT PASSPORTS: FROM REACTIVE COMPLIANCE TO 'GLOBAL ENTRY'.*** Webinar, sponsored by the American Association of Exporters & Importers, showcases the groundbreaking, new phase of Altana's partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to use Product Passports for pre-clearing low-risk shipments. Presentation by **Amy Morgan**, Vice President & Head of Trade Compliance, Altana. 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. CST. No fee; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: https://events.zoom.us/jv/AslX61uxim9qgVn7Qd1aiKinJ8_Ri-rlZmimwRyNbzg3BttbJiGV~AvNtSxbVKxq_1Ljpw3FAovonzZrEIMsLSgOUKVka4mgOvtS2pL2hB4wfaA.
- Dec. 2 ***ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER AND FUNDRAISER 2025.*** Reception & Dinner Program sponsored by the Swiss American Business Council. 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., University Club of Chicago, 76 East Monroe Street, Chicago. SABC Members - \$185; Non-members - \$195. For information & registration, please see: <https://sabenow.com/product/christmas2025/>.
- 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=smartradeblog&sourcepage=register>.
- Dec. 5 - ***SAUDI ARABIA AND UAE TRADE MISSION.*** The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers 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 financial support from **The Anderson Law Firm** and **Boomerang Carnets**, and collaborative support from: Central Asian Productivity Research Center, **OWIT-CMC** and **U.S. – Mexico Chamber of Commerce, Mid-America Chapter**. 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 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. 8 **TRADE & TECH SUMMIT.** Hybrid event, sponsored by the Washington International Trade **NEW DATE** highlight how the conversation on trade and technology is shifting as governments 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. (CST), Pavilion Room, Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. WITA Members - \$50 in-person; \$25 virtual; Non-members - \$100 in-person; \$50 virtual. For information & registration, please see: <https://www.wita.org/events/trade-tech-summit/>.
- 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.

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.