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Member Opportunities

NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami – January 29-31

All NAEGA member personnel are invited to attend a meeting of the NAEGA Board of Directors in Miami, Florida on Tuesday, January 31 from 8:00-12:00pm. A preliminary agenda can be found [here](#), and includes plans to discuss NAEGA governance, financials, new legal counsel, reports from Committees and policy issues, such as the U.S. government transition.

Annual Member and Board of Directors Meeting – March 20, 2017

Please make your plans and reserve your hotel rooms now for the 2017 NAEGA Annual Member, Board of Directors and Committee meetings on March 19-21, 2017 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana.

[Hotel room blocks are now available at the Sheraton by clicking here. Please book your room as soon as possible to guarantee a space.](#)

All NAEGA member personnel are invited to attend and participate in all NAEGA meetings and events. A preliminary schedule of events is available below:

| NAEGA Annual Meetings and Events – March 19-22 | | | |
|---|----------------|--|----------------------|
| <i>All events to take place at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel – 500 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA</i> | | | |
| Date | Time | Event | Location |
| <i>Sunday, March 19</i> | TBD | Contracts Committee Meeting RSVP here | TBD |
| | 3:15-5:30pm | Joint NGFA Biotechnology and NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting RSVP here | Nottoway Room |
| | 6:00-7:30pm | NGFA Convention: CoBank Welcome Reception <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i> | Armstrong Room |
| <i>Monday, March 20</i> | 9:00am-11:30am | NGFA Convention: Grand Opening Plated Breakfast Featuring Juan Luciano, Chairman and CEO, ADM <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i> | Grand Ballroom A/B/C |
| | 12:00-5:00pm | NAEGA Members Lunch with Member and Board Meeting to follow RSVP here | Nottoway Room |
| | 1:00-4:00pm | NGFA Convention: Congressional Facility Tour | TBD |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--|----------------|
| | | RSVP here | |
| | 6:30-7:30pm | NGFA Convention: Bunge North America Reception (Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members) | Armstrong Room |
| <i>Tuesday, March 21</i> | 7:30-8:45am | Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections and NGFA Grain, Grades and Weights Committee Meeting RSVP here | Nottoway |
| | 12:00-4:00pm | Regional Industry Workshop RSVP here | Rhythms 1 |
| | 1:00-4:00pm | Facility Tours RSVP here | TBD |
| <i>Wednesday, March 22</i> | 8:00am-3:00pm | NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar RSVP here | Maurepas Room |

NAEGA Committee members should also consider making plans to attend their Committee meetings on March 19-21. The following Committee events have been scheduled, including Joint meetings with NGFA Committees:

| NAEGA Committee Meetings | | | |
|---|--------------|--|-----------------|
| All Committee Meetings to take place at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel – 500 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA | | | |
| Date | Time | Event | Location |
| <i>Sunday, March 19</i> | TBD | Contracts Committee Meeting RSVP here | TBD |
| | 3:15-5:30pm | Joint NGFA Biotechnology and NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting RSVP here | Nottoway Room |
| <i>Monday, March 20</i> | 12:00-5:00pm | NAEGA Members Lunch with Member and Board Meeting to follow RSVP here | Nottoway Room |
| <i>Tuesday, March 21</i> | 7:30-8:45am | Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections and NGFA Grain, Grades and Weights Committee Meeting RSVP here | Nottoway |

Agendas and registration pages for the NAEGA Annual Member, Board and Committee Meetings will be distributed in the coming days.

NAEGA Member Promo Rate for NGFA Convention

All NAEGA member personnel are invited to take advantage of a special \$250 promotional rate for the NGFA Convention. In addition, spouses are invited to attend for a special rate of \$200. This special rate includes the CoBank Welcome reception on Sunday, March 19 and all events on Monday, March 20, including the Grand Opening breakfast and the Bunge North America Reception.

| Events Included in NAEGA Promo Rate | | | |
|---|----------------|--|----------------------|
| <i>All events to take place at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel – 500 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA</i> | | | |
| Date | Time | Event | Location |
| <i>Sunday, March 19</i> | 6:00-7:30pm | NGFA Convention: CoBank Welcome Reception <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i> | Armstrong Room |
| <i>Monday, March 20</i> | 9:00am-11:30am | NGFA Convention: Grand Opening Plated Breakfast Featuring Juan Luciano, Chairman and CEO, ADM <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i> | Grand Ballroom A/B/C |
| | 6:30-7:30pm | NGFA Convention: Bunge North America Reception <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i> | Armstrong Room |

If you are interested in taking advantage of this special promotional rate, please use the following codes during registration.

[Register here for the NGFA Convention](#)

Member personnel code (\$250): NAEGA2017
NAEGA Spouse Code (\$200): NAEGASPOUSE

NOLA Regional Industry Workshop – March 21

NAEGA and NGFA will host a New Orleans Regional Industry Workshop on Tuesday, March 21 from 12:00-4:00pm in the Rhythms 1 Room of the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. The Regional Industry Workshop will bring together members of industry and government to discuss safety, security and operational issues affecting the NOLA Port-Range. The Federal Grain Inspection Service has confirmed that they will attend the workshop. Past workshops have also included members of the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the National Cargo Bureau. More information, and a preliminary schedule, will be available soon.

NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – March 22

On Wednesday, March 22 in New Orleans, LA NAEGA will hold a Contracts and Best Practices Seminar following the Annual Meeting events on March 19-21. The Seminar will take place from 8:00am-3:00pm in the Maurepas Room of the Sheraton New Orleans.

NAEGA Seminars are an interactive opportunity to review commercial and official practices to improve predictability, reduce risks, resolve trade barriers and facilitate the profitable trade of grains and oilseeds. Topics of this seminar will include a review of the global contracting environment, industry wide standards, guidelines and model contracts, commercial compliance with international conventions and case studies of commercial topics. In addition, issues specific to the NOLA Port-Range will be discussed. A full agenda will be available soon.

Price and registration for this Seminar will be available soon.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

Please let us know if you are interested in attending or hosting a NAEGA Seminar! Click [here](#) for more information the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!.

Internships

Information on working for NAEGA as an intern can be found [here](#).

Full Details on Upcoming Events can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the [NAEGA Member's Only Page](#).

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Action Reports

Recent Actions:

U.S. Government Transition

NAEGA Continues to monitor developments in the U.S. Government transition, including nominations by the President-elect. Nominations hearings will begin in the U.S. Senate this week, and so far, NAEGA understands the following nominations have been made:

Cabinet

Vice President

Elected

Mike Pence

Cabinet

Secretary of State

Secretary of Treasury

Secretary of Defense

Department of Justice-Attorney General

Secretary of the Interior

Secretary of Agriculture

Secretary of Commerce

Nominated

Rex Tillerson

Steve Mnuchin

James Mattis

Jeff Sessions

Ryan Zinke

Sonny Perdue

Wilbur Ross

Secretary of Labor
Secretary of Health and Human Services
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Secretary of Transportation
Secretary of Energy
Secretary of Education
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Secretary of Homeland Security

Andrew Puzder
Tom Price
Ben Carson
Elaine Chao
Rick Perry
Betsy DeVos
David Shulkin
John F. Kelly

High-level Offices

Director of Office of Management and Budget
Director of the Central Intelligence Agency
Ambassador to the United Nations
Admin. of the Small Business Administration
Admin. of the Environmental Protection Agency
Admin Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv
Deputy Commerce Secretary
Secretary of the Army
Trade Representative
National Aeronautics and Space Administrator
Director of National Intelligence

Nominated

Mick Mulvaney
Mike Pompeo
Nikki Haley
Linda McMahon
Scott Pruitt
Seema Verma
Todd Ricketts
Vincent Viola
Robert Lighthizer

Daniel Coates

Assistants to the President

White House Chief of Staff
Counsel to the President
Special Advisor on Regulatory Reform
Economic Policy and National Economic Council
Counselor to the President
Deputy National Security Advisor
National Security Advisor
National Trade Council
Special Rep. International Negotiations
Senior Counselor and Chief Strategist
Press Secretary
Director of Strategic Communications
Director of Social Media
Homeland Security & Deputy Nat'l Security Advisor

Appointed

Reince Priebus
Don McGahn
Carl Icahn
Gary Cohn
Kellyanne Conway
KT McFarland
Michael Flynn
Peter Navarro
Jason Greenblatt
Stephen Bannon
Sean Spicer
Hope Hicks
Dan Scavino
Thomas Bossert

Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers
Director of the Office of Science

Selected Ambassadors

United States Ambassador to China
United States Ambassador to Israel

Nominated

Terry Branstad
David Friedman

North American Trade Letter

On Monday, January 23 NAEGA, along with over 130 other organizations representing a broad cross-section of the U.S. food and agriculture industry, sent a letter to President Donald Trump regarding the importance of trade and the North American marketplace. The letter, addressed to the President and distributed to key people within the White House, U.S. Departments of Treasury, Agriculture, and Commerce, U.S. Trade Representative and the Canadian and Mexican Embassies, expresses the undersigned organizations desire to work with the Administration to preserve and expand on the gains achieved by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) during any renegotiation or modernization. A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).

Over the past few months NAEGA has been working closely with the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade, an off the record broad based open forum that convenes as needed to discuss U.S. agriculture’s interests in trade, to communicate with the Trump Administration regarding the benefits of trade to the U.S. food and agriculture sector. As the Trump Administration gets settled, NAEGA plans to continue its leadership role in the Dialogue and in efforts to preserve and modernize trade in North America, the Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Asia-Pacific Trade Letter – Signatures Requested

NAEGA member company signatures are requested on a letter to the Trump Administration regarding the benefits of trade in the Asia-Pacific region. A copy of the letter can be found [here](#). Please contact Ryan (rolson@naega.org or 202-682-4030) if you are interested in signing.

Recent events, including today’s executive order regarding the Trump Administration’s intention to withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, highlight the urgent need to communicate with the Administration on the benefits of trade. Through this letter and others, NAEGA is continuing its leadership in the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade’s efforts to reinforce the industry’s desire to preserve and enhance U.S. trade relations.

GHS Subcommittee Meeting

On December 7-9, 2016 Jess McCluer, NAEGA Volunteer and NGFA Vice-President for Safety and Regulatory Affairs, traveled to Geneva, Switzerland to attend a meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and Dust Explosion Hazards Correspondence Group (CG). In Geneva, Mr. McCluer monitored developments in the Correspondence Group and at the Subcommittee, reported on the effects that amendments to the GHS could have on the global bulk grain trade and provided recommendations for action. A copy of the GHS Subcommittee agenda can be found [here](#). [More details on NAEGA actions in the CG and at the Subcommittee meeting can be found in the trip report here.](#)

DBTG Executive Committee Meeting

On January 10-13 NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter traveled to Gijon, Spain to participate in a meeting of the Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG) Executive Committee meeting on January 11. Through his position on the DBTG Executive Committee, Mr. Cotter acts to lead and contribute his significant expertise on the international measures related to GRNOS cargoes labeling and handling and global industry efforts to monitor and engage in several critical aspects related to transportation. Over the past year, Mr. Cotter has been working closely with the International Bulk Terminals Association (IBTA), the sister organization of the DBTG, to address and inform on the activities of the GHS and IMO Committee on the Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC). Both bodies are addressing explosive dust cargoes and relevant shipment materials designations and management.

A copy of the notice to post for this travel is available [here](#). A trip report for this mission will soon be available.

Upcoming Actions:

Delhi, India – IGTC Working Visit

On January 30-February 15 Katy Lee, Secretariat of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) will travel to Delhi and Mumbai, India to conduct a working visit with IGTC members the Soybean Processors Association of India (SOPA) and the Solvent Extractors Association of India. During her time there, Katy will conduct bilateral meeting with government and industry representatives to discuss IGTC policy files and priorities. In addition, on February 1-3 Katy will attend the Global Grain, Food and Feed Conference (G2F2) in Delhi to meet with Indian industry and represent the IGTC.

A Notice to Post for this upcoming travel will be available soon. Please contact Gary or Ryan if you have any questions.

Pending Actions:

NAEGA is considering making comments on the following items. Please contact us with your advice or suggestions:

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In the News

Executive Order on TPP

On Monday, January 23 President Trump signed his first trade related executive order – withdrawing the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) the 12-nation trade agreement negotiated and signed by President Obama.

The future of the agreement is now uncertain with the U.S. withdrawal. The agreements entry into force would only occur if six of the twelve original parties making up over 85 percent of the

original signatory's gross domestic product were to ratify the accord. The withdrawal of the U.S. means that achieving the 85 percent threshold is now impossible.

More information on the agreement can be found [here](#).

BIMCO Terminal Survey

The Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) [2016 Dry Bulk Terminals Vetting Report is now available](#). The report uses questionnaire responses to analyze dry bulk terminal performance and offer statistical data to guide future planning. Analysis includes ranking of over 200 terminals world-wide based on overall experience, ease of loading/unloading, mooring arrangements, ship-terminal communication, area and equipment, and terminal services among other metrics.

The questionnaire and vetting report can be found in PDF format [here](#) and [here](#).

Ballast Water Management

With the recent ratification by New Zealand, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Convention on Ballast Water Management (BWM Convention), will be officially implemented beginning in September 2017. Once in force, the convention requires ship-owners to manage their ballast water on every voyage by exchanging or treating it using an approved ballast water treatment system. These regulations apply to all ships with the exception of military vessels.

A more detailed report by the International Dry Bulk Terminals Group on the likely impact of the implementation of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Convention on Ballast Water Management (BWM Convention) can be found [here](#). Please contact Gary or Ryan if you have any questions about compliance with the convention.

Commerce Report and Recommendations on Port Competitiveness

The U.S. Department of Commerce has published a report on port and supply chain best practices as a part of the 21st century U.S. port competitiveness initiative. The report and recommendations are in response to issues raised by industry, including increasing trade volumes, vessel sizes, and supply chain complexity. The report emphasizes the critical role of seaport productivity in the country's international commercial competitiveness and the effect of congestion on U.S. economic performance. Recommendations for improving U.S. port competitiveness include working groups, information sharing, operational improvements, worker skills, and private sector partnerships to ease port congestion.

A summary of the report can be found [here](#).

If you would like more information, or wish to provide comments on any of these news topics monitored by NAEGA, please contact us.

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Calendar & Member Notices

Click [here](#) for a Copy of the IGTC Calendar

2017

January

26 - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

30 – February 15 – IGTC Working Visit – Delhi and Mumbai

31 – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – 8:00am-12:00pm – Miami, FL

February

1-3 – Global Grain, Food and Feed Conference – Delhi, India (Katy attending)

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

TBD – IGTC Extraordinary Webinar on LLP – Virtual

TBD – IGTC Working Visit with Chinese Member Associations – Beijing, China

1-3 – Global Grain, Food and Feed (G2F2) – Delhi, India

5-9 – IGTC Working visit with Solvent Extractors’ Association – Mumbai, India

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

March

TBD – Global Low Level Presence (LLP) meeting

1 – Publication of new IPPC ISPMs for consideration at Standards Committee

1-2 – Global Grain Asia – Singapore, Singapore

1-3 Global Grain MENA – Dubai, UAE

7 – Australian Grains Industry Conference Asia – Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

9 – Australian Grains Industry Conference Asia – Shanghai, China

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

15-31 – IGTC Working Visit with CIARA-CEC

19-21 – NGFA Convention – New Orleans, LA

19 – NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting – 3:15-5:30pm - Nottoway Room, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

20 – NAEGA Contracts Committee Meeting – 7:00-8:45am - Nottoway Room, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

20 – NAEGA Annual Member and Board Meetings – 12:00-5:00pm – Nottoway Room, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

21 – NAEGA Grades and Inspections Committee Meeting - 7:30-8:45am – Nottoway Room, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

21 – NOLA Regional Industry Workshop – 12:00-4:00pm – Rhythms 1 Room, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

22 – NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar 8:00am-3:00pm – Maurepas Room – New Orleans, LA

29-31 – DBTG Operational Meeting – Santander, Spain

April

5-11 – IPPC CPM-12 – Incheon, South Korea

10-12 – Canadian Global Crops Symposium – Calgary, Canada

10-14 – IGTC Working Visit with Eastern Africa Grains Council – Nairobi, Kenya and other EAGC member countries

17-23 – Eastern African Grains Council (EAGC) Annual General Meeting – Nairobi, Kenya

24-25 – Global Low Level Presence (GLI) Meeting – Location TBD

May

1-2 – NGFA 2017 Trade Rules Seminar – Kansas City, Missouri

8-12 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

22-24 – ISF World Seed Congress 2017 – Budapest, Hungary

June

TBD – IMO Council – London, UK

TBD – Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting

5– 8 – 46th International Grains Council Session, IGC International Grains Conference and IGTC meetings– London, UK

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

27 – IPPC Industry Advisory Group on ePhyto Hub – Washington, DC

July

10-12 – GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland

24-28 – IMO Council Session – London, UK

August

1-3 – Australian Grains Industry Conference Australia and associated meetings – Melbourne, Australia

7-11 – IGTC Working Visit with GTA – Sydney, Australia

17 – APEC High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology - Vietnam

September

11-15- IMO CCCC – London, UK

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

October

TBD – IGTC General Assembly – Location TBD

TBD – NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum

November

13-17 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

TBD – Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting

December

3 – NGFA Country Elevator Conference

6-8 – GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

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