



OUTREACH
January 10, 2017
Thank you for your membership in and work
with NAEGA

*Please welcome Paul Green as NAEGA's newest Senior Advisor. Paul will focus on supporting the Production Technologies Committee
Paul can be contacted at pbgreen@naega.org*

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Member Opportunities

Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Applications

The U.S. Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is seeking applications for its Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. The Committee meets twice annually to advise GIPSA on the programs and services it delivers under the U.S. Grain Standards Act. Recommendations by the committee help GIPSA to better meet the needs of its customers who operate in a dynamic and changing marketplace. The committee is comprised of 15 members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture who represent all segments of the grain industry. They include grain producers, processors, merchandisers, handlers, exporters, consumers, grain inspection agencies, and scientists. Committee members serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for travel expenses.

Members interested in applying for a position on the Committee submit an AD-755 application form. The deadline for the application is January 20, 2017. The application form and additional information about the Advisory Committee can be found [here](#).

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 is currently being developed and will include plans for the NAEGA annual meetings in New Orleans, the U.S. government transition, NOLA in March, the Board of Directors and other personnel changes and NAEGA, MAP and IGTC programs and budgets.

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>	3:15-5:30pm	Joint NGFA Biotechnology and NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting	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>	7:00-8:45am	Contracts Committee Meeting	Nottoway Room
	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	Nottoway Room
	1:00-4:00pm	NGFA Convention: Congressional Facility Tour	TBD
	6:30-7:30pm	NGFA Convention: Bunge North America Reception <i>(Included in Promo Rate for NAEGA members)</i>	Armstrong Room
<i>Tuesday, March 21</i>	7:30-8:45am	Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections and NGFA Grain, Grades and Weights Committee Meeting	Nottoway
	12:00-4:00pm	Regional Industry Workshop	Rhythms 1
	1:00-4:00pm	Facility Tours	TBD
<i>Wednesday, March 22</i>	8:00am-3:00pm	NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar	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>	3:15-5:30pm	Joint NGFA Biotechnology and NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting	Nottoway Room
<i>Monday, March 20</i>	7:00-8:45am	NAEGA Contracts Committee Meeting	Nottoway Room
	12:00-5:00pm	NAEGA Members Lunch with Member and Board Meeting to follow	Nottoway Room
<i>Tuesday, March 21</i>	7:30-8:45am	Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections and NGFA Grain, Grades and Weights Committee Meeting	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. Past workshops have included members of the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS), 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:

World Grain Forum

On November 16-21 Gary Martin, acting in his role as President of the IGTC, traveled to Sochi, Russia to attend the [2nd Annual World Grain Forum](#). Invited to Sochi by the Russian Grain Union, Gary represented IGTC members and policy files during all meetings and presentations, including 5 press interviews and during networking with Russian officials and grain trade personnel. During the grain forum Gary also acted as a moderator on a panel entitled *The World Grain Market: Long-term Trends and Forecasts*, presented on electronic documentation during round table on *Phytosanitary Control: Role in Creating Favorable Conditions for International Grain Trade* and attended a business breakfast with the Russian Deputy Prime Minister. represented NAEGA and the IGTC at the November 18-19. [More details on these and other IGTC actions in Sochi can be found in the trip report here](#). A copy of Gary's presentation can be found [here](#).

Field Code Changed

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

Trump's Pick

Mike Pence

Secretary of State
Secretary of Treasury
Secretary of Defense
Department of Justice-Attorney General
Secretary of the Interior
Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of Commerce
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

High-level Offices

White House Chief of Staff
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
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors
Director of the Office of Science
National Aeronautics and Space Administrator
Director of National Intelligence

Assistants to the President

Counsel to the President
Special Advisor on Regulatory Reform
Economic Policy and National Economic Council
Counselor to the President

Rex Tillerson
Steve Mnuchin
James Mattis
Jeff Sessions
Ryan Zinke

Wilbur Ross
Andrew Puzder
Tom Price
Ben Carson
Elaine Chao
Rick Perry
Betsy DeVos

John F. Kelly

Trump's Pick

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

Trump's Pick

Don McGahn
[Carl Icahn](#)
[Gary Cohn](#)
Kellyanne Conway

Deputy National Security Advisor	KT McFarland
National Security Advisor	Michael Flynn
National Trade Council	Peter Navarro
Special Rep. International Negotiations	Jason Greenblatt
Senior Counselor and Chief Strategist	Stephen Bannon
Press Secretary	Sean Spicer
Director of Strategic Communications	Hope Hicks
Director of Social Media	Dan Scavino
Homeland Security & Deputy Nat'l Security Advisor	Thomas Bossert

Selected Ambassadors

United States Ambassador to China
 United States Ambassador to Israel

Trump's Pick

Terry Branstad
 David Friedman

U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade

NAEGA is continuing and expanding its work to lead ~~the leads~~ a ~~broad-based~~ broad-based group of industry stakeholders in US Food and Agriculture Trade. As part of this effort, NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin, along with Bill Westman, Vice-President of the North American Meat Institute, convened a U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade at Arent Fox, LLP on Thursday, January 5. The Dialog works to -inform the broadest set of stakeholders as possible on all policy specific efforts and relevant information while attempting to engage with Government officials whenever welcome, possible and practical

At the Dialogue session, former NAEGA outside counsel Marc Flieschacker led a panel of Arent Fox attorneys including Partner Matt Clark, , Former Congressman Phil English and Keith Huffman that provide information and perspective on the changes that the new administration and Congress could immediately make to U.S. trade policy, including the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Following the Arent Fox team we heard about how the US Congress plans to proceed from -Everett Eissenstat, Chief International Trade Counsel at the Senate Finance Committee, and Steve Claeys, Trade Counsel at the House Ways and Means Committee.

Dialogue participants considered a path forward for the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade in 2017. Many expressed interest in supporting trade in -coordination with the Dialog-, including addressing potential policy changes in the Asia/Pacific and North America directly with the Trump ~~Adminiatration~~ Administration.-

Letter to the Transition Team

[Gary and Bill have sent a letter to President-elect Trump requesting a listening session to convey information on why U.S. Agriculture international trade is critically important](#), has done very well, can be expected to create even more jobs and economic growth and needs to be considered before new policy actions are taken.

If a listening session can be scheduled with the transition team, Gary and Bill will gather feedback amongst the Trade Dialogue and act on a response. Meanwhile, NAEGA and members of the Dialogue are working closely with like-minded stakeholders on communication efforts regarding trade policy in North America and the Asia-Pacific.

Cuba

In addition to efforts related to the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade, NAEGA is monitoring the U.S. government transition related to relations with Cuba. Much of President Obama's efforts to liberalize trade and investment with Cuba over the last two years have occurred via executive action, making them liable for immediate repeal by the Administration of President-elect Trump. These include travel, diplomatic relations, and administrative coordination.

In particular, NAEGA is monitoring how changes to the "180-day rule" administered by the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) could affect members. The 180-day Rule states that any vessel that enters Cuba for the purpose of trading goods and/or services of any kind is prohibited from entering the U.S. ~~for the purpose of~~ loading or unloading freight for 180 days after leaving Cuba. However, agricultural commodities currently enjoy an exception to the rule under Cuba Asset Control Regulations (CACR). Removal of the exception by the future administration could have direct impact on members, particularly those scheduling vessels that have recently called on Cuba in the first few months of the new administration. An announcement from the Obama Administration regarding the 180 Day rule is rumored to be coming before January 20.

For more information on these regulations, please visit the [OFAC website](#) or refer to these [FAQs on Cuba sanctions](#).

Upcoming Actions:

Gijon, Spain – DBTG Executive Committee Meeting

On January 11-12, 2017 NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter will travel to Gijon, Spain to participate in a meeting of the Dry Bulk Terminal Group's (DBTG) Executive Committee meeting. A copy of the provisional agenda for the meeting will be available soon. NAEGA, under its MOU with the DBTG, sits on the Executive Committee and engages with the group and its sister organization, the International Bulk Terminal Association (IBTA) on issues relating to international maritime safety and regulation.

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

Delhi, India – IGTC Working Visit

On January 30-February 15 Katy Lee, Secretary 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

APHIS Releases Updated Coordinated Framework

On January 4, the EPA, FDA, and USDA released the final [Update to the Coordinated Framework for the Regulation of Biotechnology for 2017](#) as well as the [National Strategy for Modernizing the Regulatory System for Biotechnology Products](#). The 2017 Update is the first document in decades to comprehensively summarize of the roles and responsibilities of the three regulatory agencies with regard to regulation biotechnology products. NAEGA was closely involved in developing comments to the Obama Administration's update of the Coordinated Framework, [including these comments submitted to the White House Office of Science and Technology in November 2017](#).

More information on update to the Coordinated Framework can be found [here](#) on the White House official website.

FGIS Inspection and Service Fees

On December 30, the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) reduced its Official Inspection and Weighing Fees for 2017 based on operating reserves that exceed 4.5 months of operating expenses. However, FGIS also announced that it is increasing its National Tonnage fee to \$.006, almost ten percent from 2016. This increased tonnage fee for 2017 reflect a nearly 16 percent increase in FGIS administrative costs in 2016, from \$6.2 million in 2015 to \$7.2 million last year.

~~Throughout~~ Throughout implementation of the 2015 Grain Standards Act, which adjusted how FGIS determines fees, NAEGA and NGFA have continually urged the FGIS to bring its field office expenses, and resultant fees, in line with those of official agencies that provide inspection and weighing services, including through [these comments on Grain Standards Act implementation](#).

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

12 - Contracts Committee NAEGA Revisions Call – Virtual

11-12 – DBTG Executive Committee Meeting – Gijon, Spain (Jerry attending)

TBD - Contracts Committee NAEGA 2 Revisions Call – Virtual

20 – U.S. Inauguration Day – NAEGA teleworking.

20 – Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Applications Due

TBD - 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 Asa – 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 – 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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