



Holiday Schedule:

December 23 – office closed at 3pm
December 26-27 – office closed
December 29-December 30 – office closed

NAEGA is pleased to welcome Tradiverse Corporation of New York as its newest member! Tradiverse is an integrated commodities supplier that focuses on sourcing, processing, storing, financing, and supplying commodities needed by industries around the world. Through its export elevator in Lake Charles, LA, Tradiverse reaches supplies grain and oilseeds to customers around the world.

For more information on Tradiverse Corporation, visit their website [here](#).

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Member Opportunities

IGTC Briefing

NAEGA members are invited to attend an IGTC briefing from 9:00 to 11:00am on Friday, December 2, 2016. Katy Lee and Gary Martin will provide the latest information on IGTC activities and operations. We hope you or an interested colleague can join us for the briefing in the lobby conference room at 1400 Crystal Drive in Arlington, VA.

Please click [here](#) if you would like to attend.

Please contact Gary or Ryan if you have any questions.

New Orleans Port-Range Subcommittee Meeting

All NAEGA member representatives are invited to attend a meeting of the Grades and Inspections Committee's NOLA Port-Range Subcommittee on Monday, December 5 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm central time.

Please click [here](#) if you would like to attend.

The meeting will take place in the Rex Room of the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. Gary will be in town to meet with the subcommittee and discuss local, national, and international issues affecting the New Orleans port-range.

Please contact Ryan for more information.

IGC Session and Round Table

IGTC is invited to the 45th International Grains Council Session and Round Table at 10:00am on Monday, December 5 at the London Marriott West India Quay Hotel. A full draft agenda, including notes for the session, is available [here](#). Information on the round table discussion on "Are low prices a cure for low prices?" and confirmed panelists is available [here](#).

If you are interested in attending, please contact Ryan immediately to receive accreditation from the IGC through the International Grain Trade Coalition.

OFAC 2016 Fall Symposium – December 7

Register now for the Office of Foreign Asset Control's (OFAC) 2016 Fall Symposium. The symposium will take place in Washington, D.C. on December 7, 2016 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. The event will provide a comprehensive review of current U.S. economic sanctions. This event will include presentations on OFAC regulations, as well as targeted reviews of sanctions concerns for new and updated OFAC-administered programs. In addition to formal presentations by key personnel, OFAC staff will be available throughout the day to answer individual questions from participants. The event is free, but advanced registration is required. To register, please click [here](#).

For more information please contact Gary or Ryan.

CAST Asynchronous Approvals for Biotech Crops Event – December 8

All NAEGA member representatives are invited to [register now](#) for the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) and the U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance's presentation and discussion on "The Impact of Asynchronous Approvals for Biotech Crops on Agricultural Sustainability, Trade, and Innovation. The event will take place on Thursday, December 8 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at the American Farm Bureau Federation in Washington, DC. The presentation will include comments by Drs. Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes and Val Giddings followed by a panel discussion with Bobby Frederick of NGFA, Matthew O'Mara of BIO, Tom Sleight of the U.S. Grains Council and a U.S. Government Representative. To register for this event, please click [here](#).

For more information please contact Ryan.

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

Please make your plans now to attend the 2017 NAEGA Annual Member and Board of Directors meeting. Once again, this year's meeting will take place alongside the NGFA Annual Convention.

All NAEGA meetings will take place on Monday March 20, 2017 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. Meeting times for the Member, Board and Committee meetings are still to be decided.

You can secure guest room accommodations by clicking [here](#). A copy of the NGFA Convention schedule and hotel information is available [here](#).

For more information please contact Gary or Ryan.

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:

New NAEGA Member Directory

NAEGA has updated the Member Representatives Directory to include the addition of our newest member, Tradiverse Corporation. NAEGA asks all members to review the directory and let us know of any changes that you have. The new directory can be found [here](#) and on the NAEGA website under the Member Representatives Directory page.

Gulf Cooperation Council Meeting on GCC Guide

On Wednesday, November 23, Ryan and Virginia participated in a virtual meeting with the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and industry stakeholders regarding Kuwait's recent decision to adopt the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Guide for Imported Food Safety. A copy of the GCC guide can be found [here](#). During the call, FAS representatives provided an update on Kuwait's recent decision to implement the GCC Guide. Implementation of the guide has currently been delayed by Kuwaiti authorities until April 1, 2017 as the government considers the affects that the new rules will have on importers. Over the next few months, as Kuwaiti officials prepare for implementation, USDA FAS will be reaching out to Kuwaiti officials to ensure that U.S. health certificates for products such as poultry and dairy will be accepted at import. The top priority of FAS is to ensure that FAS mutual acceptance of all U.S. health certificates.

For information on this issue will be available in the coming months as the implementation date near. For more information please contact Gary or Ryan.

Future Actions:

IGTC Secretariat Visit – December 1-3

Acting IGTC Secretariat and NAEGA Contractor Katy Lee will visit NAEGA's offices in Arlington, VA on December 1-2, 2016. During her visit, Katy will be meeting with NAEGA staff and DC based corporate stakeholders on implementation of the new IGTC business plan. An IGTC briefing at NAEGA's headquarters is currently being planned.

A notice to post for this travel is available [here](#). More information on Katy's final itinerary and plans for the stakeholder outreach session, will be available soon.

Cartagena Protocol COP-MOP – December 4-17

Following her stop in Arlington, Katy Lee will travel to Cancun, Mexico on December 4-17 to participate in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety's COP-MOP 2016 Meeting. A copy of the provisional agenda is available [here](#). During the COP-MOP discussions, Katy will be representing IGTC policy position on the CBP, which can be found [here](#), and communicating closely with the IGTC's Cartagena Protocol Team.

A notice to post for this travel is available [here](#). For more information, or to provide input into the meeting, please contact the IGTC Secretariat at secretariat@igtglobal.org.

GHS Subcommittee Meeting – December 7-9

On December 6-9, 2016 NAEGA volunteer Jess McCluer, NGFA's Vice President for Safety and Regulatory Affairs, will travel to Geneva, Switzerland to participate in a meeting of the [United Nation's \(UN\) Globally Harmonized System \(GHS\) Subcommittee of Experts on the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals](#). A copy of the preliminary agenda for the Subcommittee meeting is available [here](#). A schedule of events for the meetings is available [here](#). Please click [here](#) for a copy of the notice to post for this travel.

Please contact Gary or Ryan for more information or if you would like to contribute to this mission.

Pending Actions:

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

CFTC Supplement to Position Limits Rule

On May 26, the Commodities and Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) announced that it will issue for public comment a supplement to its position limits proposal. The proposal will modify the procedures for those seeking exemptions from speculative position limits for non-enumerated bona fide hedging. The supplement would provide a new process for exchanges to recognize certain positions in commodity derivative contracts as non-enumerated bona fide hedges or enumerated anticipatory bona fide hedges, as well as to exempt from federal position limits certain spread positions, in each case subject to CFTC review.

Comments on the supplemental may be submitted electronically through the CFTC's website. If you are interested in contributing to comments on the supplemental, please contact Gary or Ryan. For more information, click [here](#).

EU Environmental Footprint Pilot

At the end of July, the European Commission launched its public consultations on Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules (PEFCR) for feed, food and drink products. The PEFCR is a pilot project to develop an approach to calculate the environmental footprint of different products with the goal of measuring environmental performance of products for future policy making. The PEFCR is an effort to measure and communicate the EU's environmental goals under its *Building the Single Market for Green Products Initiative*.

The EC has developed draft PEFCRs for each product under consultation from product secretariats formed by representatives of trade associations, companies and supply chain experts. The draft PEFCRs developed by the secretariats are now available for public consultation and comment. The comment period will be open until the first quarter of 2017.

More information on contributing to comments on the draft PEFCRs can be found [here](#). If you are interested in contributing comments to the draft PEFCRs please contact Gary or Ryan.

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In the News

27th Session of U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade

U.S. and Chinese officials concluded talks of their 27th Session of U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT) last week. U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Ambassador to China Max Baucus led the U.S. delegation in discussions with the Chinese Vice Premier. Discussions included a range of commercial and trade issues, with agreements being reached by U.S. and Chinese officials on intellectual property, pharmaceutical and medical devices, and information security policies. Press reports of this final JCCT with the Obama administration indicated that efforts related to crop biotechnology regulations failed. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Ambassador Michael Froman both issued statements over the holiday weekend expressing disappointment over the lack of progress in the talks.

For more information on the U.S.-China JCCT, please click [here](#).

2016-17 RCC Work Plans Finalized

The Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) has finalized the 2016-17 Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Work Plan. Each work plan consists of a timeline with specific deliverables over the next two years. These plans are the result of collaboration between stakeholders and regulators with the goal of facilitating closer regulatory cooperation between the two countries. This document serves to enhance economic competitiveness by harmonizing regulations while protecting environmental, safety, and health standards in both countries.

A copy of the work plan is available [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

2016

December

2 - IGTC Briefing - Arlington, VA

4-17 – COP-MOP Meetings to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols – Cancun, Mexico

- 5 – 44th International Grains Council Session and Round Table – London, UK
- 5 – Port-Range subcommittee meeting - New Orleans, LA
- 7-9 – UN GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland
- 8 – CAST Asynchronous Approvals for Biotech Crops Event – Washington, DC
- 14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting, 12pm – Virtual
- 23 – NAEGA office closes at 3pm
- 26 – NAEGA office closed
- 27 – Merry Christmas – NAEGA office closed
- 29 – NAEGA office closed
- 30 - 1 – Happy New Year! – NAEGA office closed

2017

January

- 20 – U.S. Inauguration Day – NAEGA office closed

March

- TBD – Global Low Level Presence (LLP) meeting

- 19-21 – NGFA Convention – New Orleans, LA

- 20 - NAEGA Annual Meetings – New Orleans, LA

April

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

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

June

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

- 14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

September

- 14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

December

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

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