



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH November 9, 2015

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Please take this opportunity to submit updates in personnel or business structure changes to the NAEGA Directory:

NAEGA is updating its Membership Directory ahead of a full member and board of directors meeting on November 12. All full and associate members and member representatives should take this opportunity to update the NAEGA Membership Directory. A copy of the directory can be found [here](#). Please email any changes that you might have in personnel to [Ryan](#). *Thank You!*

Member Opportunities

- NAEGA Member and Board of Director Meeting – November 12
- Alternative Security Program Workshop – November 18
- IGC Meeting and Forum – IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 1-3
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- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

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Member Opportunities

NAEGA Full Member and Board of Directors Meeting – November 12

On November 12 NAEGA will host a Member and Board of Directors meeting at its Washington, D.C. headquarters. Full members are encouraged to send a voting representative to join the Board of Directors.

This meeting will involve voting by Full Members as well as the Board of Directors. Additional KEY items for consideration will include:

- Staff and Legal Counsel reports;
- By-laws Changes - Full Members to consider for approval;
- 2015 and 2016 NAEGA Budget revisions - Board of Directors to consider for approval;
- 2016 Planning

Ahead of the full member and Board of Directors meeting, NAEGA is taking this opportunity to update its Membership Directory. You can find the most recent copy of the directory [here](#). If you have any personnel or business structure changes that need to be made to the directory, please contact Gary or Ryan.

Alternative Security Program Workshop – November 18

At the request of U.S. Coast Guard, NAEGA and NGFA will host a workshop for Alternative Security Program (ASP) administrators. The afternoon workshop will take place on November 18 at our offices in Washington, D.C. The agenda for this year’s workshop includes input from ASP users on seafarer shore access, ASP Navigation and Vessel Inspection Circulars (NVIC), and cybersecurity, among other items. NAEGA ASP users who would like more information or wish to provide input for the workshop should contact Gary or Ryan.

Alternative Security Programs (ASP) provide an alternative to Facility Security Plans to meet some security measures required by the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA). Our ASP is available to facilities operated by NGFA and NAEGA members in good standing. If you are interested in learning more about the NAEGA-NGFA ASP, please contact Gary or Ryan for more information.

IGC Meeting and Forum – IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Buenos Aires December 1 - December 3

On December 1, the International Grains Council and the Buenos Aires Bolsa de Cereales will hold a forum titled *The New Global Context: Challenges and Opportunities of Large Net Exporters* in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The forum will be conducted at the Bolsa de Cereales, 123 Corrientes

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Avenue, Buenos Aires, Argentina and feature discussions on global grain markets, upcoming developments and challenges to the grain trade, ongoing trade negotiations, and food security issues, among other topics. Working on behalf of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC), Gary Martin plans to moderate a session at the forum called *Key Grain Trade Issue: Developments and Challenges*. NAEGA members will be invited to attend the IGC Bolsa Forum and the subsequent meetings of the IGTC. An agenda for the IGC Forum can be found [here](#). You can now register to attend online at the following links:

English: <http://www.igcargentina.com/eng/index.html>

Spanish: <http://www.igcargentina.com/>

The IGTC will hold meetings and a general assembly on December 2 and 3 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The IGTC will be also be hosted by the Bolsa de Cereales, 123 Corrientes Avenue, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The meetings will feature a policy strategy session, a roundtable discussion on relevant policy and commercial concerns, an IGTC general assembly, and a stakeholder outreach session.

A draft agenda can be found [here](#). Please RSVP to the events at the links below.

IGTC Reception:

December 1

Bolsa de Cereales

18:30-20:30

[Register Now](#)

IGTC Policy Meetings and General Assembly:

December 2

Bolsa de Cereales

09:00-17:00

December 3

Bolsa de Cereales

11:00-13:00

[Register Now](#)

IGTC Corporate Stakeholders Outreach Session:

December 3

Bolsa de Cereales

08:30-11:00

[Register Now](#)

Please contact Gary or Ryan with any additional questions.

NAEGA Seminars

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The NAEGA Contracts Committee conducts seminars for in-depth, interactive education on contract practices. NAEGA Seminars are divided into two different categories: first, “Privately” funded and designed for a single member company, and attended by persons invited by that member company; second, “Generally” funded by registration fees, designed to cover the interests of many companies, and attended by persons from several companies. In most cases, the Seminars provide intensive review of current developments and practices in international grain trade contracts, and often focus on the NAEGA 2. In-depth examination of regulatory compliance, as well as NAEGA services and policy concerns, can also be added content for a Seminar designed to meet your needs. Invitations for General Seminars are sent to all NAEGA member company representatives, and a per person registration fee will be required for attendance.

Our tentative plans for a General Seminar in Kansas City are on hold as we seek a date in near future that can be accommodated. NAEGA members interested in attending a General Seminar should contact Gary (gcmartin@naega.org) or Sam (sbonilla@naega.org). We have several open dates during which Seminars may be conducted. At your convenience, please let us know if you would like to discuss options for holding a Seminar.

NAEGA Internships

NAEGA is seeking candidates for internships in our Washington, D.C. office during the winter and summer of 2016. NAEGA internships last for 2 to 4 months and are tailored to meet the availability and interests of the student. Common responsibilities for a NAEGA internship include supporting staff administration and communication related to membership and industry services, national and international policy, international programs and cooperation, as well as general office administration. NAEGA interns report directly to a Director of Operations and support the work of all NAEGA staff and third party personnel. Work study programs may be incorporated into a NAEGA internship.

Please contact Ryan to discuss – we are now recruiting for interns to start in January or February and May or June of 2016. Your recommendations are welcome!

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

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Reports on NAEGA Actions

New FGIS Tonnage Fee Formula

Export tonnage fees were a major topic of consideration at the GIPSA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting in Kansas City on October 27 and 28. NGFA Director of Safety and Regulatory Affairs Jess McCluer attended on behalf of NAEGA and NGFA. FGIS is currently in the process of drafting a formula based on the 5 year rolling tonnage average to address increases and decreases in inspection fees. FGIS anticipates that the formula will be published in the

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Federal Register by mid-January and the final rule will be completed by May 2016. The Committee again is advocating that FGIS financial statements to be made publicly available quarterly to promote transparency and facilitate industry participation in the rule-making process. NAEGA is currently working closely with NGFA to ensure that FGIS responds to industry requests. NAEGA will be monitoring the situations and drafting comments to the new tonnage fees when the draft rules are published.

If you have any comments or would like to provide input to this ongoing issue, please contact Gary or Ryan. A copy of FGIS’s financial status PowerPoint can be found [here](#).

NAEGA-NGFA NAEGA Future Actions

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

2015

APHIS Letter to Vietnam on Infestation of Warehouse Beetle: The U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has drafted a response to Vietnam’s national plant protection agency over a phytosanitary event in which Vietnamese authorities identified warehouse beetle in a shipment of DDGs from the U.S. The APHIS letter requests that Vietnam not suspend imports of DDGs and allow fumigation of infested shipments while the agency conducts trace-back investigations.

As this situation unfolds, NAEGA welcomes your questions and advice. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions or comments.

Comments Due on Peru’s Draft MRL Standards: The USDA Foreign Agriculture Service is requesting comments on Peru’s draft MRL standards filed at the WTO on October 5. While the MRL levels appear to be in harmonization with U.S. levels, NAEGA and USDA welcome any comments from members on these draft rules.

Comments are due to USDA by December 1. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

Comments Due on Canada’s Draft MRL Standards: The USDA Foreign Agriculture Service is requesting comments on Canada’s draft MRL standards filed at the WTO on October 19. These MRL standards include draft levels for dried soybeans, legumes, flour and whole wheat flour. While the MRL levels appear to be in harmonization with U.S. levels, NAEGA and USDA welcome any comments from members on these draft rules.

Comments are due to USDA by December 1. Please contact Gary or Ryan with any questions.

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Public Comment on Extension of Nonregulated status Syngenta Corn The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has opened up a public comment period on its preliminary decision to extend the nonregulated status of Bayer/Genective S.A.VCO-01981-5 and Pioneer’s DP-004114-3 to Syngenta MZHG0. Syngenta’s corn variety has been genetically engineered for resistance to glyphosate using the same mechanism as the Genective variety. Therefore, a no significant impact is sought for the Syngenta variety as well. APHIS will accept public comments until November 27, 2015.

More information on the public comment period can be found [here](#). NAEGA looks forward to hearing member input on this public comment.

U.S. Review of Coordinated Biotechnology Framework – NAEGA will continue to be engaged in a White House initiative intended to update and improve the U.S. Coordinated Biotechnology Framework. The White House issued a memorandum directing the three federal agencies with oversight responsibilities for the products of biotechnology—the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Department of Agriculture (USDA)—to update the Coordinated Framework, develop a long-term strategy to ensure that the system is prepared for the future products of biotechnology, and commission an expert analysis of the future landscape of biotechnology products to support this effort.

NAEGA looks forward to receiving member input. More information can be found [here](#).

NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on the Members Only Section under their relevant committee pages.

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Information for your Consideration

TPP Text Released

The 30-chapter full text of the Trans-Pacific Partnership was released by the White House on Thursday, November 5. President Obama is required to notify Congress 90 days prior to signing the deal. Speculation remains as to when Congress will take up a vote on the agreement, which cannot be amended or filibustered as per fast-track authority legislation.

To read the full text, click [here](#).

LDCs Release Priorities Ahead of WTO Ministerial

The World Trade Organization (WTO)’s least-developed countries (LDC) released a list of their priorities on November 2, ahead of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Nairobi, Kenya from December 15-18. Under agricultural priorities, members are to establish a system providing for full cost recovery of inspection controls for “changing and unpredictable standards” (SPS) on imports from LDCs. The Agriculture section also addresses export competition,

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reaffirming that all export subsidies and equivalent controls on export measures are to be eliminated; the phasing out period provided differs based on development status.

More information about the LDC Group’s priorities can be found [here](#).

FAO Food Price Index Reverses Months of Declines

As per data from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), food prices increased in October 2015 relative to September. Citing unfavorable climate conditions in part, the FAO also reduced its world cereal output forecast to 2.530-billion tons from the 2.534-billion ton estimate provided in September. The increase in wheat and corn prices was the primary driver of the increase in grain and cereal price prices, which rose by 1.7 percent.

To read more about the food price increases, click [here](#). FAO Food Index data 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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NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices

2015

November

9-13 – Incheon, South Korea – ePhyto Symposium – NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin Invited – For more information, click [here](#).

12 – Washington, D.C. – NAEGA Membership and Board Meeting

18 – Washington, D.C. – NAEGA hosting ASP Workshop

16-19 – Baltimore, MD – USAEDC Annual Workshop. For more information, click [here](#).

17-20 – Amsterdam, Netherlands – International Genetically Modified Conference on Coexistence (GMCC-15)

21-23 – Guangzhou, China – U.S. China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade. For more information, click [here](#).

December

Dec. 1 - Buenos Aires Argentina - International Grain Council (IGC) meeting and Forum Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend. To register, click [here](#).

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2- 3 – Buenos Aires, Argentina IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend. ALL NAEGA members / IGTC Corporate Stakeholders welcome! To register, click [here](#).

9-11 – Geneva, Switzerland – Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Subcommittee meeting. Jerry Cotter attending

15-18 – Nairobi, Kenya – Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference. For more information, click [here](#).

2016

January

11-14 Washington, D.C. – Transportation Research Board (TRB) Agricultural Transportation Committee Annual Meeting. Gary Martin will present on multiple freight transportation modes related to the U.S. grain industry.

April

14 – Winnipeg, Canada – Tentative IGTC Meeting

June

14 – London, UK – IGC Grains Conference

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