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Member Opportunities

NAEGA Annual Meetings – March 19-21

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>	12:00-3:00pm	Contracts Committee Meeting RSVP here	Grand Cocteau
	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 RSVP here	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 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>	12:00-3:00pm	Contracts Committee Meeting RSVP here	Grand Cocteau (5 th Floor)
	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 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

NAEGA will hold a Contracts and Best Practices Seminar on Wednesday, March 22 in New Orleans, LA 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’s New Orleans Seminar will be led by NAEGA Senior Advisor Sam Bonilla and Contracts Committee Chair Andrew Marting. 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. Sam and Andrew will also be discussing proposed changes in 2017 to the NAEGA 2 contract. 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.

ASP Users Meeting – May 24

All NAEGA members who utilize the NAEGA-NGFA Alternative Security Program (ASP) are invited to attend the Spring ASP Workshop in Washington, D.C. Coordinated by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), this Spring's meeting will be held at the offices of the American Chemistry Council on May 24, 2017. Along with presentations by the USCG on ASP compliance, the workshop's agenda will include discussion of the new TWIC reader rule and an update from the Federal Aviation Administration on unmanned aerial vehicles and managing airspace security. More information, including an agenda, will be available soon. Please contact [Ryan](#) if you are interested in attending.

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:

NAFTA and China Policy Teams

NAEGA staff are recruiting member personnel to participate in policy teams focused on the North American Free Trade Agreement and China. The Board of Directors requested the creation of these policy teams during the January 31 Board meeting in Miami, Florida. Policy teams will monitor unfolding trade policy changes related to the U.S. government transition, including:

- **NAFTA Policy Team:** Work with NAEGA staff to monitor a potential renegotiation of NAFTA. Develop policy requests for a revised NAFTA agreement and communicate with U.S., Canadian and Mexican government officials the value of an efficient open North American marketplace.
- **China Policy Team:** Work with NAEGA staff to monitor U.S. government trade relations with China. Topics include advising and communicating NAEGA positions on Decree 177, production technologies and U.S. trade policy developments.

Please contact [Ryan](#) if you have any questions or are interested in participating in these policy teams.

COP-MOP 8

On November 30-December 17, 2016 Katy Lee, Secretariat of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) traveled to Washington, D.C. and Cancun, Mexico. In Washington, D.C. Katy met and discussed IGTC policy files with Washington based IGTC members, stakeholders and contacts. Following her meetings in Washington, Katy traveled on to Cancun to lead the IGTC delegation to the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP-MOP 8 on the Cartagena Biosafety Protocol (CBP)). In Cancun, Katy and the rest of the IGTC team represented IGTC policy on the CBP, including grain trade interests in the transboundary movement of living modified organisms. A copy of the COP-MOP 8 ministerial declaration can be found [here](#). A trip report for this travel is now available and can be found [here](#).

U.S. Government Transition

NAEGA continues to monitor developments in the U.S. Government transition and work closely with Washington, D.C. member representatives and industry stakeholders regarding changes to U.S. trade policy.

Asia-Pacific Letter

On February 6, 2017 NAEGA, along with member companies and industry stakeholders, signed a letter to U.S. President Donald Trump on the importance of the Asia-Pacific marketplace to U.S. America's farmers, ranchers, processors and food companies. The letter's signatories look forward to working with the new Administration to preserve and expand upon the market access gains achieved by the U.S. food and agriculture sector in the Asia-Pacific region. A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).

U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue

On February 9 NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin, along with North American Meat Institute (NAMI) Vice-President Bill Westman and Cassandra Kuball of the Corn Refiners Association (CRA), led a meeting of the U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialogue for Trade. The Dialogue is an off the record broad based open forum that convenes as needed to discuss U.S. agriculture's interests in trade. This week, the Dialogue hosted Ken Smith Ramos of the Mexican Embassy and Mike Hawkins and Brad Wood of the Canadian Embassy to discuss trilateral trade in North American and the future of the North American Free Trade Agreement. In addition, the Dialogue discussed recent letters sent to the Trump Administration on trade in North American and the Asia-Pacific and agreed to continue to engage with the Administration on trade issues in the future, including on upcoming March discussions on trade between the Trans-Pacific Partnership and Pacific Alliance in Chile.

Nominations and Confirmations

NAEGA continues to monitor the Cabinet nominations. Nominations hearings are currently ongoing. NAEGA understands the following nominations and confirmations have been made:

Cabinet Position	Name	Status (2/6/17)
Vice President	Mike Pence	Elected
Secretary of State	Rex Tillerson	Confirmed
Secretary of Treasury	Steve Mnuchin	Nominated
Secretary of Defense	James Mattis	Confirmed
Department of Justice-Attorney General	Jeff Sessions	Confirmed
Secretary of the Interior	Ryan Zinke	Nominated
Secretary of Agriculture	Sonny Perdue	Nominated
Secretary of Commerce	Wilbur Ross	Nominated
Secretary of Labor	Andrew Puzder	Nominated
Secretary of Health and Human Services	Tom Price	Confirmed
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Ben Carson	Nominated
Secretary of Transportation	Elaine Chao	Confirmed
Secretary of Energy	Rick Perry	Nominated
Secretary of Education	Betsy DeVos	Confirmed
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	David Shulkin	Nominated
Secretary of Homeland Security	John F. Kelly	Confirmed

High-level Offices	Name	Status (2/6/17)
Director of Office of Management and Budget	Mick Mulvaney	Nominated
Director of the Central Intelligence Agency	Mike Pompeo	Confirmed
Ambassador to the United Nations	Nikki Haley	Confirmed
Admin. of the Small Business Administration	Linda McMahon	Nominated
Admin. of the Environmental Protection Agency	Scott Pruitt	Nominated
Admin Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv	Seema Verma	Nominated
Deputy Commerce Secretary	Todd Ricketts	Nominated

High-level Offices	Name	Status (2/6/17)
Secretary of the Army		
Trade Representative	Robert Lighthizer	Nominated
National Aeronautics and Space Administrator		
Director of National Intelligence	Daniel Coates	Nominated
Assistants to the President	Name	Status (2/6/17)
White House Chief of Staff	Reince Priebus	Appointed
Senior Advisor	Jared Kushner	Appointed
Counsel to the President	Don McGahn	Appointed
Special Advisor on Regulatory Reform	Carl Icahn	Appointed
Economic Policy and National Economic Council	Gary Cohn	Appointed
Counselor to the President	Kellyanne Conway	Appointed
Deputy National Security Advisor	KT McFarland	Appointed
National Security Advisor	Michael Flynn	Appointed
National Trade Council	Peter Navarro	Appointed
Special Rep. International Negotiations	Jason Greenblatt	Appointed
Senior Counselor and Chief Strategist	Stephen Bannon	Appointed
Press Secretary	Sean Spicer	Appointed
Director of Strategic Communications	Hope Hicks	Appointed
Director of Social Media	Dan Scavino	Appointed
Homeland Security & Deputy Nat'l Security Advisor	Thomas Bossert	Appointed
Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers		
Director of the Office of Science		
Selected Ambassadors	Name	Status (2/6/17)
US Ambassador to China	Terry Branstad	Nominated

Selected Ambassadors	Name	Status (2/6/17)
US Ambassador to Israel	David Friedman	Nominated

Upcoming Actions:

IGC MCC and ISF Meetings – March 5-8

On March 5-8 NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin and International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) secretariat Katy Lee will travel to Zurich, Switzerland and London, England. In Zurich, Gary and Katy will attend the International Seed Federation’s (ISF) plant breeders meeting. Following that, they will travel to London to participate in a meeting of the International Grains Council’s (IGC) [Market Conditions Committee \(MCC\)](#) and meet with industry and government stakeholders.

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

Pending Decree 177 Meeting with AQSIQ – March 9-10

On March 9-10 NAEGA President and CEO is planning a pending meeting to Beijing, China to meet with officials at AQSIQ to discuss U.S. compliance with Decree 177. Over the past few months NAEGA has been working closely with USDA FAS and industry stakeholders to ensure U.S. industry compliance with Decree 177 facility registration requirements. In Beijing Gary will discuss U.S. efforts at compliance and educate AQSIQ officials on the U.S. grain export system.

DBTG Operational Seminar – March 27-31

Ryan Olson and Jerry Cotter will travel to Gijón, Spain March 26-31 to attend the Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG) Operational and Technical Seminar. This Spring seminar is the first of DBTG’s two main meetings this year to facilitate discussion on issues such as operational safety and efficiency, technical analysis and innovation, environmental matters, operational training, maritime security, and other industry issues. More information about the Seminar, including the provisional meeting program and registration forms, can be found on the [DBTG website here](#). A notice to post for this travel will be available soon.

Pending Actions:

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

Jones Act Proposed Revocations and Modifications Comments

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is seeking comment on proposed modification and revocation of headquarters’ ruling letters (HQ) relating to the application of the coastwise laws to certain merchandise and vessel equipment that are transported between coastwise points. CBP is planning to update HQ 101925 to bring it more closely in line with new U.S. law passed following the letter. A copy of the request for comments can be found here and in the February 8, 2017 edition of the Customs Bulletin. Comments are due on April 18, 2017. Please contact Gary or Ryan if you would like to provide input.

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In the News

Indian Regulatory Compliance FAQs

On January 23, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) published a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions covering information related to regulatory compliance issues. The 22-page document covers topics related to the FSS act of 2006, legislation that established rules and regulations made thereunder by the FBO's. Issues include enforcement, licensing categories and information, penalties, and IEC code importation, among others.

The full FAQ document is available [here](#) or on the [FSSAI website here](#).

Abe Visits Washington

On February 10-11, 2017 Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Washington, DC and Mar-a-Lago, Florida for his first bilateral summit with President Donald Trump. During the summit, Mr. Trump and Mr. Abe discussed the Japanese and U.S. bilateral relationship, including trade, investment and security ties. A copy of the President and Prime Minister joint statement following their summit can be found [here](#).

Trudeau Visits Washington

On February 13, 2017 Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau travelled to Washington, D.C. for his first meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump. During the meeting both men discussed bilateral issues including border security, trade, energy and the environment, and global security. During the talks, both leaders confirmed the two countries commitments to the existing strong foundation for trade and investment and committed to further deepening the relationship.

A copy of the joint issued by the President and the Prime Minister 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

2017

February

16 - 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

5 – International Seed Federation plant breeders meeting – Zurich – Gary attending

7 – International Grain Council’s (IGC) Market Conditions Committee (MCC) meeting – London – Gary attending

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

9-10 – PENDING – Decree 177 Mission to China – Beijing, China

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

14-15 – Beyond TPP Meeting of Pacific Alliance and TPP members – Vina del Mar, Chile

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 Contracts Committee Meeting – 12:00-3:00pm – Grand Cocteau, Sheraton New Orleans – New Orleans, LA

19 – NAEGA Production Technology Committee Meeting – 3:15-5:30pm - 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 – Jerry and Ryan Attending

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

18 – CBP Jones Act Comments Due

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

24 – Spring ASP Workshop – American Chemistry Council – Washington, D.C.

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

26-27 – NAPPO International Symposium for Risk Based Sampling – Baltimore, MD

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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