



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

OUTREACH May 29, 2015

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Your help is requested; Kyle is moving to a new job and we are searching for someone to serve as **NAEGA Director of Operations**. The ideal candidate should possess a varied set of skills necessary to successfully contribute to a fast paced trade association business. A position description can be found [here](#). If you know of anyone that would be a good fit for NAEGA, please let Gary or Kyle know ASAP.

Until a new Director of Operations is on the job, please use these **NAEGA Staff Contact Email addresses:** Gary: gcmartin@naega.org – Trevor: Intern@naega.org

Member Opportunities

- NAEGA Contract Seminars – Tentative Kansas City June 25-26
- Chicago, IL – USSEC Sustainability Conference – June 2-3, 2015
- London, England – International Grain Trade Coalition and International Grains Council – June 8 and 9, 2015
- GIPSA Seminar – UGMA Moisture Meters – Fargo, ND June 25, 2015
- New Orleans, LA – USGC Mexico Biosafety Regulators – June 25, 2015
- Notice To Solicit Nominees – USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee – June 25, 2015
- Big Sky, Montana – PNWER Annual Summit – July 12-16, 2015
- Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum – August 13-15, 2015

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- Alternative Security Program
- China Grain and Oilseed Law

Information for your consideration

- U.S. OSHA Hazard Communications
- CODEX Code for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin U.S.-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)
- Trade Promotion Authority
- U.S. Chemical Facility Anti- Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Guidance

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

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Member Opportunities

NAEGA Contract Seminars – Tentative – Kansas City June 25-26

The NAEGA Contracts Committee conducts seminars for in-depth and interactive education on contract practices. NAEGA Seminars are conducted in two different ways: 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, NAEGA services and policy concerns can also be added content for a Seminar designed to meet your needs.

For example, on June 2-3, NAEGA Senior Advisor and NAEGA Director of Operations, Sam Bonilla and Kyle Liske, will be conducting a Private seminar in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

We have tentative plans for a General Seminar in **Kansas City on June 25 and 26**. Invitations for General Seminars are sent to all NAEGA member company representatives, and a per person registration fee will be required for attendance.

We have several open dates during which additional Seminars may be conducted; currently July 20-31 and August 1-11, 17-21 are available. Please let us know, at your convenience, if you would like to discuss options for holding a seminar.

Chicago, IL – USSEC Sustainability Conference – June 2-3, 2015

NAEGA President and CEO, Gary Martin, will speak at the U.S. Soybean Export Council’s (USSEC) U.S. Soy Sustainability Forum for U.S. Industry and U.S. Soy Family, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Chicago O’Hare Hotel on June 3. Gary will speak about the “Industry Perspective on Sustainability” at 11:30am, June 3. NAEGA members are welcome to attend. A copy of the proposed agenda can be found [here](#).

London, England - International Grain Trade Coalition and International Grains Council – June 8 and 9, 2015

The International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) will meet June 8, the current proposed agenda can be found [here](#). IGTC meetings and participation are open to all NAEGA members. You and your colleagues are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting in London. Please contact Gary for more information.

Also in London, on June 9, International Grains Council (IGC) will convene its annual conference. The IGC Conference requires registration. Click [here](#) for more information on the IGC Conference.

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NAEGA Market Access Program funds may be available to NAEGA member personnel for travel and attendance to the IGTC meeting and IGC Conference. Please contact Gary or Kyle for additional details.

GIPSA Seminar – UGMA Moisture Meters – Fargo, ND June 25

The Department of Agriculture’s Grain Inspection, Packing & Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) plans to hold a seminar regarding Unified Grain Moisture Algorithm (UGMA) Moisture Meter technology. The seminar is scheduled for Thursday, June 25 at the Northern Crops Institute in Fargo, ND. You may find a preliminary agenda [here](#). The session is geared toward grain elevator operators/managers in North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota. Space is limited at the Northern Crops Institute, so attendees should register in advance, **by June 12, 2015**. If you would like to register, you may contact Marsha Schwartz by email at marsha.k.schwartz@usda.gov.

New Orleans, LA – USGC Mexico Biosafety Regulators – June 25, 2015

NAEGA will join the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) in New Orleans, as they host a team of biotech regulators from Mexico, to educate them on the U.S. grain export system. NAEGA members are invited to join the group for lunch on Thursday, June 25th at noon. Please contact Gary for details.

Notice To Solicit Nominees – USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee – June 25, 2015

The Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) is seeking nominations in a [Federal Register notice](#) to serve on the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). GIPSA is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee to replace two members whose terms will expire in August 2015, and three members whose terms expire October 2015. Candidates who wish to be considered for membership on the Advisory Committee should submit an [AD-755 application form](#). All nomination material can be emailed to: Terri.L.Henry@usda.gov, faxed to: (202) 690-2173, or mailed to: Terri L. Henry, Management Analyst, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Stop 3642, Washington, DC 20250. The deadline for submission is **June 25, 2015**.

If you or a colleague would like to serve on the Advisory Committee and wish to have NAEGA’s support for your application – please contact Gary.

Big Sky, Montana – PNWER Annual Summit – July 12-16, 2015

The 25th Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) Annual Summit brings together over 500 key business leaders, legislators and government leaders from the ten PNWER states, provinces and territories to address the major policy issues impacting the region.

This year’s summit will be held in Big Sky, Montana from July 12-16. [Please click here to register.](#)

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum – August 13-15, 2015

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The 22nd APPAMEX/NAEGA Forum will take place in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico at the [Hyatt Ziva Hotel](#) from August 13-15. The registration fee will be \$380 USD for participants. Invitations and more details will be available soon.

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

Alternative Security Program

NAEGA’s senior advisor, Jerry Cotter, and Jess McClure of NGFA attended U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) meetings for Alternative Security Program (ASP) providers. Topics covered included Cyber Security and Seafarers Access, which will both eventually be incorporated into the NAEGA-NGFA that is used as part of their compliance with the Marine Transportation Safety Act (MTSA) by several members for export elevators at export port locations. We are also currently in the process of making minor changes to update the ASP, and renewing it with Coast Guard. ASP users will be advised of the outcome of the meeting, and any changes made to the NAEGA-NGFA ASP.

China Grain and Oilseed Law

A significant change in China’s law addressing grain and oilseeds is impending.

An initial translation, by USDA FAS, of the new law “*The Admin Measures of Inspection and Quarantine on Entry-Exit Grain and Feed Products.*” can be found [here](#). The law: requests enforcement of GMO safety regulations; adds a requirement to include “China grain quality and safety requirements” to the commercial contract; encourages the importer to request third party certificates such as quality certificate, hygienic certificate and weight certificate; and adds a specific penalty for violations. All these, and more measures, would apply to grain including: cereals (wheat, maize, rice, barley, rye, oats and sorghum), beans (soybean, mung bean, pea, rice bean, broad bean and chickpea), tuber crops (potato, cassava, sweet potato) and other seeds of grain crops and its processed products (such as rich, malt, flour); feed products refer to byproducts after grain or oilseed material is processed (wheat bran, bean cake, bean meal etc).

NAEGA is making it a high priority to attempt to limit trade impediments and distortions that may result from implementation of the Chinese Law. No WTO notification, and a June 10 deadline for comments will make it very difficult. Our effort now includes these actions in this attempt:

1. Request an extension of time to comment.
2. Work closely with USDA agencies and US value chain partners like NGFA.
3. Engage with like-minded groups in Canada and across the Americas, as well as globally with the IGTC.

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

2015

June 21 – Comments to USDA APHIS on draft environmental assessment (EA) and preliminary plant pest risk assessment (PPRA) seeking deregulation for corn genetically engineered (GE) found [here](#), and seeking for the deregulation of cotton GE found [here](#).

June 22 – Comments to USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on the regulation of biotechnology products found [here](#).

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

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Information for your Consideration

U.S. OSHA Hazard Communications

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will begin implementation of a revised standard for hazard communications on **June 1, 2015**. As we understand it, revision requires Safety Data Sheets for grain and oilseeds be provided to buyers from sellers for all U.S. transactions. An industry guidance document can be found [here](#).

CODEX Code for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin

The 9th Session of the Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF) agreed to forward the main text of the proposed draft revision of the Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Mycotoxin Contamination in Cereals (CAC/RCP 51-2003), to the 38th Session of the Commission for adoption at Step 5. The CCCF also returned the annexes to Step 2/3 for further consideration by the Electronic Working Group (EWG), chaired by Brazil and co-chaired by Canada and U.S., as well as circulation for comments and further consideration by the next session of the Committee. Brazil, the U.S. and Canada have invited all interested Codex members and observers to assist in this task.

U.S.-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)

The Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) published Regulatory Partnership Statements that outline the mechanisms for ongoing regulatory cooperation, as well as work plans describing the new initiatives planned for RCC-2. The Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency

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(CFIA) have been working closely to develop new work plans under phase 2 of RCC. These include:

- **Post-entry quarantine:** Certain plant taxa from designated countries must be grown under specific post-entry quarantine (PEQ) conditions to be eligible for importation into the U.S. The goal of this project is to establish a process that meets U.S. phytosanitary import requirements, but allows the quarantine to take place in Canada prior to export.
- **Electronic Certification:** The electronic exchange of certificates (e-Cert) would increase the efficiency of this process, improve reporting, enhance security of the transmission of certificates, and reduce the opportunity for fraudulent activity. Under RCC-2, APHIS and CFIA will work toward implementing a mechanism to allow the electronic exchange of phytosanitary certificates (e-Phyto) between Canada and the United States. Both countries will identify the technical options required for e-Cert data exchange, and consider initiating a trial to transmit phytosanitary certificates electronically.

USDA APHIS is intending to host a webinar to provide additional information on the Regulatory Partnership Statements and work plans, and to provide stakeholders an opportunity to ask questions. Details on this webinar will soon be announced.

U.S. Chemical Facility Anti- Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Guidance

The US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the availability of a new guidance document for expedited approval of Tier III and IV facilities, and continues to strengthen security at the Nation’s high risk chemical facilities through the Chemical Facility Anti- Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program. NGFA has advised that an indefinite exception remains in effect for agriculture, and that DHS is developing an advance notice of proposed rulemaking that will lead to the development of a proposed rule, that it hopes to finalize in the ‘next couple of years’. DHS is also developing a list of frequently asked questions-and-answers that it hopes to issue relatively soon. DHS noted that there are a lot of misunderstandings about what is and isn’t covered under the agriculture exception, which it hopes to clarify with the FAQ document. A link to the 92-page guidance document can be found [here](#), and an updated CFATS fact sheet (May 1) can be found [here](#).

Trade Promotion Authority

The Congressional Trade Priorities Act of 2015 was passed in the Senate on May 22, and is now on its way to the House for a vote. Supporters urge its passage in order to provide the administration with the ability to make trade deals, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The fate of the bill in the House is still uncertain.

The legislation provides for Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) which gives the U.S. President authority to negotiate international agreements with the assurance that Congress will only have an up or down vote on trade pacts. The authority is up for reauthorization through the Congressional Trade Priorities Act of 2015.

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

June

2 – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission (ITC) Public Hearing on economic effects of the Cuban embargo.

2-3 – Milan, Italy – 2nd World Agroforum, organized by Russia, at the World EXPO – Marcel Bruins of IGTC speaking.

2-3 – Chicago, IL – USSEC Sustainability Conference – Hyatt Regency Chicago O’Hare – Gary Martin attending and speaking on June 3.

2-3 – Inver Grove Heights, MN – NAEGA Contracting Seminar – Sam Bonilla and Kyle Liske presenting.

8 – London, United Kingdom – International Grain Trade Coalition Roundtable and Policy Discussion. All IGTC Members and Corporate Stakeholders are invited and encouraged to participate, in person, at all sessions. IGTC members and corporate stakeholders are also encouraged to invite prospective IGTC members and Stakeholders to participate.

9 – London, United Kingdom – International Grains Council 2015 Conference – 86-90 Park Lane, London W1K 7TN. Gary attending.

25 – New Orleans, LA – US Grains Council hosting Mexican biosafety regulators – Gary Martin presenting.

29 – July 1 – Geneva, Switzerland – UN Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Subcommittee meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

July

12-16 – Big Sky, Montana – 2015 Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) [Annual Summit](#).

14-15 – Arlington, VA U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council (USAEDC) 2015 USDA Attaché Seminar – Westin Arlington Gateway. NAEGA members welcome to join NAEGA staff at the meeting.

August

13-15 – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – 2015 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – [Hyatt Ziva Hotel](#).

September

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14-18 – London, United Kingdom – International Maritime Organization (IMO) Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC) Meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

21 - London, England - Chatham House expert workshop on Chokepoints and Vulnerabilities in the Global Food Trade. This meeting forms part of a Chatham House research project which seeks to map chokepoints, vulnerabilities and disruptive risks onto major production hubs and global trade routes for coarse grains, soybeans and fertilizers. It will identify supply chain nodes – including producing regions, inland transport networks, ports in exporting and importing countries, and maritime corridors – that are particularly exposed to disruption. Jerry Cotter and Gary Martin attending and representing NAEGA and IGTC. Jerry will present on the major challenges facing grain and fertilizer trade in the US, with a particular focus on the resilience and capacity of inland transportation and port infrastructure. Gary will focus on a more global view on market structure and access.

22 – Washington, DC – 2015 OFAC Fall Symposia.

30 – October 2 – Vancouver, British Columbia – International Dry Bulk Terminals Group (DBTG) Annual Meeting – Jerry Cotter attending.

November

16-19 – USADEC Annual Workshop – Location TBD.

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

December

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

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