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In Vancouver, British Columbia during the week of July 17
More details and registration will be announced soon!***

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Member Opportunities

Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Minneapolis, MN Area – May 17

Please join NAEGA for a [Contracts and Best Practices Seminar](#) on May 17 in the Calhoun Isles (Lake) Room at the Hilton Garden Inn in Minneapolis, MN! Led by NAEGA Senior Advisor Sam Bonilla, this seminar will again provide participants with a current and interactive, review of commercial and official practices to improve predictability, reduce risks, resolve trade barriers, and facilitate profitable trade. NAEGA staff will assist Sam and be available to discuss NAEGA actions and member services.

The seminar will be an important opportunity for newer trade professionals to become familiar with the industry and for more experienced trade professionals to consider recent events and discuss get to know the recent changes to the NAEGA 2 contract!

The preliminary agenda includes:

- Open dialogue on current contracting practices as they relate to trade risks.
- A "Road Map" of the NAEGA II Model Contract
- Review of the 2017 revisions to the NAEGA II Model Contract.
- Perspectives on the global contracting environment in GAFTA, FOSFA and other contract models and practices.
- Case Study Exercises on:
 - Calculating laytime, despatch and demurrage.
 - Contract Terms.
- Arbitration and other alternatives for dispute resolution.

The Hilton Garden Inn is located in downtown Minneapolis at [1101 S 4th Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404](#).

NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams

We are recruiting participation 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.
- **Asia-Pacific 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.

ASP Users Meeting – Washington, DC - May 24

Subscribers to 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. NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter will lead NAEGA’s delegation at the workshop. Please contact [Ryan](#) if you are interested in attending.

NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum – Cancun, Mexico – May 24-26

All NAEGA members are invited to attend the 24th Annual NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum in Cancun, Mexico on May 24-26. This year’s forum will take place at the Hotel Secrets the Vine in coordination with the Mexican feed mills association CONFAB. Gary plans to attend and conduct several side meetings with industry and government officials. A combined agenda is available [here](#) and the NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum Agenda is available below:

Friday May 26th	
9:30–10:45am	Section of the 24 th Forum APPAMEX-NAEGA
9:30–10:10am	APPAMEX-NAEGA “Outlook of the International Grains and Oilseeds Trade in the Global and Regional Markets” – David Williams, Senior Vice President, Informa Economics IEG
10:10–10:45am	APPAMEX-NAEGA Panel: “APPAMEX Background and Participation in the Agri-Bulks Trade Repositioning for the Agri-Food Industry in Mexico” – members of the APPAMEX Direction Board and Gary Martin, NAEGA President and CEO. Moderator: Ricardo Calderon Lopez, Director Executive, APPAMEX
10:45–11:05am	“Realignment of the Logistic and Regulatory Procedures for Grains and Oilseeds Imports” – Felipe Pena Duenas, Vice President of the Transportation Commission, CONCAMIN (Industrial Chambers National Confederation) and President of CONAGO (the Grains and Oilseeds Supply National Council)
11:05–11:35am	Coffee Break and Visit to the Business Area
11:35–12:15pm	“The Agri-Food Sector in Mexico” – Mr. Bosco de la Vega Valladolid, President of the National Agricultural Council
12:15–12:40pm	Presentation to be confirmed
12:40–1:10pm	“Genetically Modified Organisms and the Agricultural Inputs Availability for the Feed Mills Industry” - Ph.D. Sol Ortiz Garcia, Secretary Executive, CIBIOGEM (TBC)
1:10–2:50pm	“Mexico’s Economic and Politic Outlook under an International Context” - Sergio Sarmiento, Economy and Political Analyst, Press Columnist and Media News Anchor
2:50–3:00pm	Conclusions

Please [click here](#) if you would like to register. Information on hotel reservation can be found [here](#).

Global Low Level Presence Initiative – Rome – June 14-15

The IGTC Secretariat in Rome, Italy will participate in the Global Low Level Presence Initiative (GLI) meeting on June 14-15. The meeting will take place at the UN FAO Headquarters and include participation from GLI members Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, United States, Uruguay and Vietnam and observers China, EU, Malaysia and Peru.

For more information or to participate please contact the [IGTC Secretariat](#).

International Symposium on Risk Based Sampling – Baltimore, MD – June 26-30

NAEGA Senior Advisor Arvid Hawk at the North American Plant Protection Organization's (NAPPO) International Symposium on Risk Based Sampling in Baltimore, Maryland on June 26-30. The symposium's topics will include:

- International collaboration to frame agricultural quarantine policy around Risk Based Sampling;
- Risk Based Sampling concepts and their application in practice;
- Scientific, statistical and operational concepts that support regulatory strategies for Risk Based Sampling;
- Experiences with implementation of ISPMs 23 and 31 and technically justified inspection procedures used in international trade.
- Communication strategies for fostering acceptance of RBS by decision-makers and stakeholders.

The Symposium will take place at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor. Please let us know if you would like to join Arvid at the Symposium, to register, please click [here](#).

PNWER Annual Summit – Portland, OR – July 23-27

NAEGA working to shape agriculture trade related discussion at the Pacific Northwest Economic Region's (PNWER) Annual Summit on July 23-27. NAFTA modernization, and infrastructure are the focus of the Summit that NAEGA is most interested in. The summit is an annual event that brings together leaders from Pacific Northwest states and Western Canada to discuss opportunities for growth within the region and address major challenges to the economy and our environment.

NAEGA staff are considering attending and presenting. A preliminary agenda can be found [here](#). Please register [here](#) if you are interested in attending.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

Upcoming Seminars open to all interested are May 17 in the Minneapolis MN region. NAEGA will also hold a company specific seminar in Minneapolis following the public seminar

Proposed open seminars are under consideration for Tokyo, Japan and Vancouver, BC, Canada in last half 2017.

NAEGA also conducts company specific private seminars. Please let us know if you are interested attending or hosting a NAEGA seminar. Click [here](#) for more information the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Internships

We have an open intern position starting May 2017 to work at the NAEGA office at 1400 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. 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:

IGTC Newsletter

The latest IGTC newsletter is now available! This week's newsletter includes upcoming events on plant breeding innovation, risks in the food and production supply chain, and the Global Low Level Presence Initiative (GLI). This week's communication also includes IGTC Policy Team member Ricardo Calderon's report on the Mexican Seeds Association (AMSAC) PBI seminar last month. Read the newsletter to learn about the new CBD study on digital sequencing of genomes and to take advantage of the IGTC discount when you book tickets for the annual GAFTA dinner coming up in June.

For more details, read the IGTC Newsletter [here](#) or visit the IGTC website at www.igtcglobal.org.

High Level Dialogue for Integration in the Asia-Pacific

NAEGA President and CEO Gary Martin reported on the High-Level Dialogue on Integration Initiatives in the Asia-Pacific Region on March 12-17. In Chile, Gary represented NAEGA in the dialogue hosted by the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, continuing NAEGA's leadership role in the industry on the future of trade in the Asia-Pacific region.

Gary's trip report can be accessed [here](#). You can read the Joint Statement by TPP Partners [here](#).

Comments to Trump Administration on Significant Trade Deficits report.

On May 11, 2017 NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) submitted comments to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative regarding the Omnibus Report on Significant Trade Deficits for the President in response to Executive Order 13786. In the comments NAEGA and NGFA provides a specific analysis of U.S. grain, oilseed and feed trade and highlights the continued and significant positive contribution that the U.S. grain and oilseed industry has on the U.S. balance of trade. Ultimately, we seek collaboration with the U.S. Administration focused on:

- Maintaining and expanding market access, tariff concessions and other provisions that have enabled economic integration.
- Improving regulatory coherence and cooperation by implementing enhanced science-based sanitary and phytosanitary rules, such as a rapid-response mechanism that commits trading partners to swiftly notify and resolve such issues, thereby averting costly demurrage and

trade inefficiencies associated with U.S. agricultural exports being held at customs in importing countries.

- Strengthening efforts to address technical barriers to trade to prevent non-tariff barriers that lack scientific merit.
- Increasing transparency and cooperation on activities related to modern agricultural production technologies, including seed-breeding innovations.
- Aligning standards, including product and ingredient registration, fortification and certification requirements.
- Enabling innovation of information technologies to improve logistics and regulatory implementation.

A copy of the comments can be found [here](#).

ISF and IGC Meetings

Gary Martin, President and CEO of NAEGA and the IGTC, Marcel Bruins, NAEGA/IGTC Science Advisor and Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat have reported on recent travel to Zurich, Switzerland and London, UK on March 5-7 for meeting with the International Grains Council (IGC) and the International Seed Federation (ISF). Gary, Marcel, and Katy participated in the International Seed Federation (ISF) Plant Breeding Innovation Working Group meeting in Zurich before Gary and Katy flew to London for a day of meetings with the IGC and GAFTA. Both ISF and the IGC prioritized Gary's visit in their respective meeting agendas.

The [trip report for this mission is now available](#).

Argentina Working Visit

IGTC Secretariat Katy Lee is back from her most recent IGTC working visit to Buenos Aires, Argentina on March 12-26. [A trip report for her working visit is now available](#). In Buenos Aires Katy conducted a working visit with CIARA-CEC and its members along with IGTC corporate stakeholder as a part of IGTC's Global Outreach Program. Katy used the visit to discuss and collect feedback on new IGTC policy files, working groups and upcoming priorities. While in Buenos Aires, Katy also coordinated the representation of the IGTC at the government-led workshop on LLP Safety Assessment on 14-15 March, with 12 countries present.

Upcoming Actions:

ISF World Seed Congress – Budapest – May 21-22

IGTC Secretariat Katy Lee will travel to Budapest, Hungary on May 21-22 to attend the International Seed Federations (ISF) World Seed Congress. During the Congress Katy will participate in the ISF's Plant Breeding Innovation Working Group meeting on May 21 and the Breeders Committee open meeting on May 22. A copy of the World Seed Congress's program can be found [here](#).

IGTC Strategy Session and IGC Conference – London – June 5-6

On June 5-6 Gary and Katy will travel to London, United Kingdom to attend the International Grains Council's 2017 Grain Conference and hold a Strategy Session for International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) members and corporate stakeholders. All NAEGA members are invited to attend the IGTC Strategy Session on June 5. IGTC Strategy Sessions are an opportunity for associations,

councils and Corporate Stakeholders to provide strategic feedback on priority files and the activities of IGTC Policy Teams and Working Groups.

While in London, Gary also hopes to meet with NAEGA Colleagues as well as International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) members and corporate stakeholders. Please contact Gary or Ryan if you would like to arrange for meeting.

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In the News

Rationalizing Grain and Oilseed Trade Across the US-Canada Border Report

A report on existing Canadian grain-related policies regarding management of small grains and oilseeds by the Canadian Government has been made public. The report discusses government policies affect on Canadian marine grain exports. Policies examined include wheat grades, Canadian grain rail policies, government ownership of grain rail cars, and asynchronous phytosanitary agreements.

A copy of the report can be viewed [here](#).

U. S. Foreign Food Supplier Verification Program

New Import requirements under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Foreign Food Supplier Verification program (FSVP) will begin taking effect on May 30. Importers of food for humans or animals, with some exceptions, are required to verify that (a) their foreign suppliers use processes and procedures that provide the same level of public health protection as the U.S. preventive controls and produce safety regulations, where applicable; and (b) the food they import is not adulterated and not misbranded with respect to food allergen labeling. The dates by which FSVP importers must comply with the FSVP rule differ based the nature of the importer, the size of the foreign supplier, and whether the supplier must meet the requirements of the FDA’s final rules on preventive controls for human or animal food or produce safety.

More information about compliance with the FSVP can be found [here](#).

U.S. Government Transition

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

Cabinet Position	Name	Status
Vice President	Mike Pence	Elected
Secretary of State	Rex Tillerson	Confirmed
Secretary of Treasury	Steve Mnuchin	Confirmed
Secretary of Defense	James Mattis	Confirmed
Department of Justice-Attorney General	Jeff Sessions	Confirmed
Secretary of the Interior	Ryan Zinke	Confirmed
Secretary of Agriculture	Sonny Perdue	Confirmed
Secretary of Commerce	Wilbur Ross	Confirmed

Secretary of Labor	Alex Acosta	Confirmed
Secretary of Health and Human Services	Tom Price	Confirmed
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development	Ben Carson	Confirmed
Secretary of Transportation	Elaine Chao	Confirmed
Secretary of Energy	Rick Perry	Confirmed
Secretary of Education	Betsy DeVos	Confirmed
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	David Shulkin	Confirmed
Secretary of Homeland Security	John F. Kelly	Confirmed

High-Level Office	Name	Status
Director of Office of Management and Budget	Mick Mulvaney	Confirmed
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	Confirmed
Admin. of the Environmental Protection Agency	Scott Pruitt	Confirmed
Admin Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv	Seema Verma	Confirmed
Deputy Commerce Secretary	Todd Ricketts	Nominated
Secretary of the Army		
Trade Representative	Robert Lighthizer	Nominated
National Aeronautics and Space Administrator		
Director of National Intelligence	Daniel Coats	Confirmed

Assistants to the President	Name	Status
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	Kevin Hassett	Nominated
Director of the Office of Science		

Selected Ambassadors	Name	Status
US Ambassador to China	Terry Branstad	Nominated
US Ambassador to Israel	David Friedman	Confirmed
US Ambassador to Canada	Kelly Knight Craft	Nominated

US Ambassador to Mexico		
US Ambassador to Japan	Bill Hagerty	Nominated
US Ambassador to the EU		

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

May

- 8-12** – IPPC Standards Committee Meeting – Rome, Italy
- 11** - U.S. Food and Ag Dialogue for Trade – Washington, D.C.
- 8-12** – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy
- 17** – Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Minneapolis, MN
- 22-24** – ISF World Seed Congress 2017 – Budapest, Hungary
- 24** – Spring ASP Workshop – American Chemistry Council – Washington, D.C.
- 24-26** – NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum – Hotel Secrets the Vine – Cancun, Mexico

June

- TBD** – IMO Council – London, UK
- TBD** – Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting
- 5** – 45th International Grains Council Session – London, UK
- 5** – IGTC Strategy Session – London, UK
- 6** – 26th IGC Grains Conference – London, UK
- 14** – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual
- 13-15** – Global Low Level Presence Meeting – Rome, Italy
- 26-27** – NAPPO International Symposium for Risk Based Sampling – Baltimore, MD
- 27-28** – IPPC Industry Advisory Group on ePhyto Hub – NAEGA HQ – Arlington, VA

July

10-12 – GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland

23-27 – PNWER Annual Summit – Calgary, Alberta, Canada

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

8 – IGC Market Conditions Committee

11-15 – IMO CCCC – London, UK

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

October

TBD – IGTC General Assembly – Location TBD

TBD – Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Vancouver, BC

TBD – Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Tokyo, Japan

November

13-17 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

TBD – Grain Inspection Advisory Committee Meeting

27 – IGTC General Assembly – Beijing, China

December

3 – NGFA Country Elevator Conference

5 – 46th IGC Council Session – London, UK

6-8 – GHS Subcommittee Meeting – Geneva, Switzerland

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

2018

March

18-20 – NGFA Annual Convention – Scottsdale, Arizona

18-20 – NAEGA Annual Meetings – Scottsdale, Arizona

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