



OUTREACH
July 21, 2017
Thank you for your membership in and work
with NAEGA

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Member Opportunities

NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams

With the 90 day NAFTA Congressional consultation period and the U.S.-China 100-day plan on trade underway we expect many more fast paced and dramatic developments that could greatly change the terms of trade for NAEGA members. Your involvement is needed!

NAEGA ad hoc policy teams of member personnel working largely through conference calls are helping to guide our multifaceted effort to address the evolving trade environment. Teams focused on the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Asia-Pacific Market are already established. The **NAFTA Policy Team** will be heavily engaged over the next three months to support NAEGA work with the U.S. Food and Ag. Dialogue for Trade, The Pacific Northwest Economic Region, the Canada U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Task Group and the NAEGA committees and Board of Directors to address NAFTA. A similar effort will soon start with an **Asia-Pacific Policy Team** that will be focused on U.S. trade relations with China, Japan, Korea and the Trans Pacific environment more generally.

Please contact [Ryan](#) if you have any questions or are interested in participating in NAEGA's ad hoc policy teams.

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

NAEGA is 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 President and CEO Gary Martin will attend and speak on the importance of trade to North America during the PNWER Agriculture Working Group session on July 24.

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

Board of Directors Meeting – Arlington, VA – September 13

The next meeting of the NAEGA Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, September 13 in Arlington, VA. NAEGA member representatives are invited to attend and submit topics for discussion. Please contact Gary or Ryan if you need travel assistance or have any questions.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

Proposed open seminars are under consideration in Tokyo, Japan in the 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.](#)

Action Reports

Recent Actions:

Canada NAFTA Comments

On Monday, July 18 NAEGA and NGFA submitted joint comments to Global Affairs Canada regarding consultations on the renegotiation and modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement. NAEGA and NGFA joint comments laid out five negotiating priorities, including:

- Maintaining all market access and tariff concessions.
- Creating a Rapid Response Mechanism.
- Enhancing science based SPS rules.
- Adopting risk management and risk assessment procedures that prevent the use of non-tariff barriers that lack scientific merit.
- Promoting regulatory consistency and cooperation provisions.
- Strengthening efforts to address TBT matters.
- Increasing transparency and cooperation on modern agricultural production technologies.
- Enabling the innovation of information technologies that improve logistics and regulatory implementation to facilitate trade.
- Ensuring safe, orderly and secure passage for rail and truck freight transportation with member countries.

In addition, the statement also calls on the Canadian government to preserve all current market access concessions and address ongoing market access challenges related to the dairy industry.

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

USAEDC Attaché Conference

On July 12 and 13 Gary and Ryan attended the U.S. Agriculture Export Development Council's (USAEDC) Attached Seminar in Arlington, VA. At the seminar Gary and Ryan discussed NAEGA and IGTC UES priorities and programming with USDA FAS attaché's from the EU, Vietnam, Tokyo, Beijing, Kenya, Moscow and Tunisia.

In addition to meeting with USDA FAS attaché's, Gary and Ryan joined the seminar plenary session where they learned more about the Trump Administration's trade agenda from Ray Starling, Special Assistant to the President for Agriculture, Trade and Food Assistance, National Economic Council and Jason Hafemeister, Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, USDA.

Please contact Gary and Ryan if you would like to learn more.

UN GHS Subcommittee Meeting

NAEGA volunteer Jess McCluer has returned from a very successful trip to Geneva for a meeting of the UN's Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals. On top of the agenda was consideration of a non-binding annex on dust explosion hazards developed by the Subcommittee Correspondence Group. Over the past few

years the Subcommittee has been considering classifying grain as an explosive material. Development of the non-binding annex was undertaken by the Correspondence Group, on which Jess sits, as a way solution to prevent the classification of grain as explosive. At this meeting the non-binding annex was submitted for consideration and, after some discussion, the annex was provisionally adopted for full consideration of by the UN Transportation of Dangerous Goods and GHS Committee in December. The conclusion of this effort in the Subcommittee means that the U.S. delegation has been prevented from creating a binding chapter to the GH on the classification of combustible dust that would have included whole grain.

A trip report, and more details on these developments, will be available soon.

NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum Trip Report

A trip report is now available for Gary's travel to Cancun, Mexico to participate in and present before the 24th Annual NAEGA-APPAMEX Forum. In Cancun, Gary presented before the forum on *Agri-Bulks Trade Repositioning for the Agri-Food Industry in Mexico*; hosted a private, off-the-record breakfast with USDA FAS, the Canadian Embassy and the Government of Mexico to discuss the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA); and briefed the APPAMEX Board of Directors on NAFTA negotiations and objectives. The dialogue and networking effectively resulted in expanded good will and continued interest in placing a priority U.S. agricultural exports to serve Mexico's needs.

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

Upcoming Actions:

IGTC Working Visit – Australia – July 20-August 5

On July 20-August 5 Katy Lee, IGTC Secretariat, will travel to Melbourne and Sydney, Australia to conduct an IGTC Working Visit with Grain Trade Australia (GTA). In Australia, Katy will coordinate closely GTA and Sydney-based corporate stakeholders to gather insight as well as inform IGTC policy files. Katy will also represent the IGTC at the 2017 Australian Grain Industry Conference (AGIC), during which she will give a presentation on the theme "Global grain industry working together to facilitate trade". The session will focus on global food security and the role for the grains industry. While at the AGIC Katy will also update GTA's Trade and Market Access Committee on IGTC policies regarding phytosanitary control, electronic trading documentation and minimum residue limits.

Pending Actions:

APHIS Consultations on IPPC Activities

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is accepting consultations on three draft specifications and 13 draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Draft Specifications:

- [Revision of ISPM 12](#)
- [Audit of phytosanitary context](#)

- [Supplement to ISPM 11](#)

Draft ISMPs:

- [2017 Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)
- [International movement of cut flowers and foliage](#)
- [Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Bactrocera dorsalis complex](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Conotrachelus nenuphar](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Ips spp](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Xylella fastidiosa](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Puccinia psidii](#)
- [Revision of Diagnostic Protocol: Plus pox virus](#)
- [Revision of ISPM 6: Surveillance](#)
- [Requirements for the use of temperature treatments as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Draft revision of Annexes 1 & 2 to ISPM15](#)
- [Draft 2015 and 2016 amendments to ISPM 5 Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)

Please contact Gary or Ryan if you are interested in contributing to any of these comments.

CFIA Consultations for Canada-U.S. RCC

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is seeking input from stakeholders for the development of new cooperation opportunities and prioritization of existing initiatives under the Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC). The purpose of this consultation is to provide an additional mechanism to seek stakeholder feedback on the prioritization of work plan initiatives currently being pursued between the CFIA and its U.S. regulatory counterparts, and to solicit input on potential opportunities for the future. There is no firm deadline for completion of this consultation. However, CFIA's tentative timeframe for collecting input is by fall of this year. Input [can be submitted at this link](#).

Mexican Government NAFTA Consultations

The Mexican Government is seeking industry, academic and citizen comments on trade priorities in a renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement. Comments can be made on the Ministry of Economy website [here](#). If you are interested in commenting on priorities for NAFTA, please contact Ryan or Gary. Comments are due July 27.

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In the News

USTR Releases NAFTA Negotiating Objectives

On Monday, July 17 the U.S. Trade Representative released the Trump Administration's list of negotiating objectives for the modernization of the North American Free Trade Agreement. The objectives include negotiating parameters in 22 areas including: trade in goods, SPS, customs, TBT, regulatory practices, services, digital trade, investment, intellectual property, transparency, state owned enterprises, competition policy, labor, environment, anti-corruption, trade remedies, procurement, small and medium sized enterprises, energy and dispute settlement. The objectives

also included, for the first time, specific negotiating priorities regarding currency manipulation. These negotiating objectives are mandated by Trade Promotion Authority legislation and will be used as a blueprint for negotiations that could begin as early as August 16.

A copy of the objectives 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 |
| Secretary of the Army | | |
| Trade Representative | Robert Lighthizer | Confirmed |
| 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 | Appointed |
| Director of the Office of Science | | |

| Selected Ambassadors | Name | Status |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| US Ambassador to China | Terry Branstad | Confirmed |
| 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 | | |
| US Ambassador to Korea | Victor Cha | Nominated |

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

July

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

27 – Comments on NAFTA Negotiations due to Mexican Government

24-28 – IMO Council Session – London, UK

August

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, London, UK

11-15- IMO CCCC – London, UK

13 – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting. Arlington, VA

14 – IGTC Management Council Meeting – Virtual

October

TBD –NAEGA Contracts and Best Practices Seminar – Tokyo, Japan

16-19 – 41st Annual NAPPO Meeting - Merida, Mexico

November

13-17 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

TBD – USDA FGIS 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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