

## OUTREACH August 4, 2014

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

NAEGA thanks Makiko Shigemitsu her contribution as intern over the past few months. Makiko completed useful research on the [Biosafety Protocol](#), [DON](#), and the [International Plant Protection Commission \(IPPC\)](#). She was also integral in adding Japanese to the website and translating NAEGA's [description paper](#). Makiko will return to D.C. next week to help with the NAEGA and NGFA hosting of the International Grains Trade Coalition (IGTC) meeting in Washington, D.C.

We wish Makiko all the best as she returns to finish her masters degree in public policy from Columbia University in New York City and then back to Japan to work with MAFF.

### Member Event Schedule – July-September

#### Action Reports:

- NAEGA Meetings in Kansas City

#### Information for your consideration

- Failure of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement
- Exports to Iran Fined

#### NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

### Member Event Schedule – August-September:

All NAEGA member personnel are invited to participate in NAEGA activities. Below is a list of NAEGA events we hope to see you at. Please let us know which events you plan to attend:

#### **1. August 7 and 8, Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington. NAEGA Events:**

- **Thursday, August 7 - USDA GIPSA-Industry Workshop**
- **Friday August 8 – Contract Training Program**  
There are still plenty of seats available for the Contract Training Program in Vancouver, Washington where NAEGA staff, including Sam Bonilla, will provide an intensive review of current developments and practices in international grain trade contracts focused on the NAEGA 2.

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To register, fill out [this registration form](#) and email it to [kliske@naega.org](mailto:kliske@naega.org) as soon as possible.

2. **August 11 and 12, Washington, DC IGTC Strategy Session and Meetings** – NAEGA members and International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) members are invited to attend the Strategy Session and Meetings. A proposed agenda can be found [here](#). The National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) and the North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA) will host the meeting at their conference room at 1250 Eye St NW Suite 1003 Washington, DC 20005.
3. **August 21-24, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico 2014 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum**  
**Registration** – Once again NAEGA will co-host the 21<sup>st</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum at the Hotel Velas Vallarta in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. A copy of the agenda can be found [here](#) and a registration form can be found [here](#).

We are also planning special side meetings to discuss the current issues with Mexican phytosanitary issues. Details on these meetings will be available soon.

4. **Friday, September 26, 2014 at CoBank's offices in Denver, Colorado NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting.** Holly Womack and Co-Bank will host the next NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting at 5500 S. Quebec St., Greenwood Village, CO 80111 from 7:30am to 1:00pm (U.S. Mountain Time).

NAEGA Members are encouraged to submit items for the consideration of the Board.

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## Reports on NAEGA Actions

### NAEGA Meetings in Kansas City

NAEGA and NGFA Alternative Security Program (ASP) subscribers met to discuss the program. Subscribers shared experiences on how the ASP was helping them to meet Marine Transportation Safety Act and related regulatory requirements. NAEGA will respond to identified ASP user information needs including providing for sector wide local communication and policy stating the authority U.S. Coast Guard D.C. headquarters to make all ASP related facility specific decisions. Potential improvements to the ASP as well as the other efforts provide for port and facility security were also identified.

NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter address all USCG related NAEGA concerns during meetings in October. NAEGA members should contact us now if you have concerns related to USCG responsibilities and actions

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Following the ASP meeting, more than 25 people attended the NAEGA contract seminar. The very capable and engaged group of participants joined NAEGA Senior Advisors Sam Bonilla and Jerry Cotter and Gary Martin in what was an intense review of the NAEGA II and current trends in the global grain trade. Requests for The development of best practices or contract guidance for container shipments and revisions to the contracts to deal with risks related to biotechnology were noted. The seminar was conducted with background information contained in an updated NAEGA sourcebook. A copy of the most recent NAEGA Sourcebook used in the seminars can be found [here](#).

A similar seminar will be held this Friday, August 8 in Vancouver, Washington. A copy of the agenda can be found [here](#). Please fill out [this registration form](#) and return it to Kyle Liske at [kliske@naega.org](mailto:kliske@naega.org) if you wish to attend.

***NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on both the Member's Only Section under their relevant committee pages and the on the Personal Page's site. Updates to tracked issues are posted in this section.***

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

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## **Information for your Consideration**

### **Failure of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement**

The first World Trade Organization (WTO) pact in two decades collapsed on July 31 after a handful of member states would not implement the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) by the deadline.

WTO ministers had already agreed to the global reform of TFA, but India made last minute objections that could not be resolved. The nation was seeking concessions on agricultural stockpiling. "Ensuring food security for its people is of paramount and strategic importance for any country," the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said in a recent statement. "But we are also faced with the need to bring to our society fundamental economic, and job creation, benefits from more efficient global trade integration."

In exchange for signing the TFA, India wanted more progress on a pact giving it more freedom to subsidize and stockpile grain. India's new national government wants a permanent agreement on stockpiling at the same time as the TFA, ahead of a 2017 target set in Bali last year.

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The TFA would have reduced trade costs, especially in developing countries, and would have generated hundreds of billions of dollars in much needed economic activity, said U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman.

### **Exports Destined for Iran Fined**

The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has assessed a \$4.1 million penalty against a California company for issuing 39 invoices for car audio and video equipment that was shipped to a company that reexports most, if not all, of its products to Iran. OFAC states that the company knew or had reason to know that these goods were intended specifically for supply, transshipment or reexportation, directly or indirectly, to Iran, noting that five of the invoices were issued after the company received a cautionary letter from OFAC in January 2012.

The settlement amount reflects OFAC's consideration of the following facts and circumstances: (1) the company demonstrated reckless disregard for U.S. sanctions requirements; (2) it appears that the company attempted to hide or purposely obfuscate its sales to Iran when it changed a Web site to remove a photo gallery of its products that was labeled "Iran;" (3) the alleged violations constituted or resulted in a systematic pattern of conduct; (4) the company had no compliance program at the time of the alleged violations; and (5) the company attempted to mislead OFAC by providing false information in its subpoena responses and other letters. On the other hand, the company had not received a penalty notice or finding of violation in the five years preceding the transactions that gave rise to the alleged violations, is a small business, and provided some cooperation to OFAC.

*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**

### **2014**

#### **August**

**4** – Washington, DC – South China Morning Post U.S. Business Report interview with NAEGA at NAEGA/NGFA Conference Room

**7** – Vancouver, Washington – USDA GIPSA Industry Workshop.

**8** – Vancouver, Washington – Potential NAEGA Update Commercial Contract Seminar/Training.

**11-12** – Washington, DC – International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC) Meeting at NAEGA/NGFA office.

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**13** – Washington, DC – American Soybean Association and Illinois Soybean Association Biotechnology Roundtable – NAEGA President, Gary Martin to participate on a panel.

**21-24** – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico – APPAMEX – NAEGA Forum – Velas Hotel.  
<http://www.appamex.com.mx/>

### **September**

**5** – Washington, DC - NAEGA MAP compliance review by USDA FAS.

**8-12** – London, England – International Maritime Organization (IMO) subcommittee meeting of Carriage of Cargoes and Containers (CCC). The agenda can be found [here](#).

**11-12** – Beijing, China – Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Food Safety Cooperation Forum: Special Session and APEC High-Level Regulatory-Industry Food Safety Dialogue.

**14** – Beijing, China – U.S.-China Agriculture and Food Partnership Symposium – Tentative

**14** – Seoul, Korea – Korean Rural Economic Institute Food Security Symposium.

**14** – Geneva, Switzerland; Rome, Italy – USBCA-The International Maize Alliance (MAIZALL) Mission to the WTO & FAO

**18** – Washington, D.C. – Michigan State University/USDA FAS Industry Roundtable International Agricultural Biotechnology Short Course. Gary Martin on the panel

**18-19** – Beijing, China – APEC Food Security Ministers Meeting, High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (tentative)

**26** – Denver, Colorado – NAEGA Board Meeting – Hosted by CoBank

**29-October 3** – Pyeongchang, Korea – 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties/Conference of the Parties for the So-called Cartagena Biosafety Protocol under the Convention on Biodiversity, which governs trans-boundary movements of Living Modified Organisms for feed, food and processing. More information can be found at: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/>

### **October**

**1-3** – Panama – Dry Bulk Terminal Group (DBTG) Annual Meeting, Gary Martin planning to present and attend.

**13** – Geneva, Switzerland – WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Committee Meeting

**20-24** – Huatulco, Oaxaca, Mexico – The North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) and the National Plant Protection Organization of Mexico. <http://www.nappo.org/>

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**24-25** – Beijing, China – Development Research Center Food Security and Sustainability Summit

**November**

**10-11** – Beijing, China – APEC Economic Leaders’ Meeting (TBD)

**17-20** – Baltimore, MD – USAEDC Annual Workshop

**December**

**14** – Washington, D.C. – U.S. China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT)

**14** – Seoul, Korea – USGC Sponsored Technical Workshop for Biosafety Committee Members

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