



# Celebrating 100 Years

January 23, 2012

*Welcome to NAEGA's Newest Member, INTL FCStone! The company provides execution and advisory service in commodities, currencies and international Securities. David Barnett, Risk Management Consultant for the company, will serve as Member Representative. Please join us in welcoming them to NAEGA - contact information for David and INTL FCStone can be found on the updated NAEGA Member directory at the [NAEGA Member's Only Website](#).*

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

#### Member Action Items:

NAEGA Annual Meetings & Centennial Celebration Update; NAEGA Committee & Member Meetings; Rail Car In-Transit Fumigation-Setting the Record Straight; Award Nominations Open; and NAEGA Membership Dues

#### NAEGA Action Items:

EU RED; World, Open-Ended Workshop on the International Movement of Grain; World, Trans Pacific Partnership; U.S. Biotech

#### Related News:

U.S.-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council Stakeholder's Event and U.S. Regulatory Agencies Unified Biotechnology Website Address Changed

#### Calendar and Website:

Upcoming events an Issue Tracking

#### **MEMBER ACTION ITEMS:**

## **NAEGA 2012 Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration Update**

With one month until the Celebration, **Act NOW** to confirm your company's plans for this "**Once in a Lifetime**" opportunity! **THANK YOU** to the NAEGA members who have signed on to sponsor the February 22 **Global Industry Reception** and others who have reserved Tables for the **Gala Dinner** on February 23.

NAEGA Members are inviting guests from around the world to join the celebration. Member invitees include foreign embassy representatives, senior corporate officials, international customers, suppliers and Federal, State and local government leaders.

All NAEGA members will likely be interested in and are welcome to attend the committee meetings which will include guest speakers from around the world. NAEGA's committees will be hosting guest speakers during the February 22 and 23 events.

We are planning for 150 attendees at the [Global Industry Reception](#) at the Bin 1700 Lounge at the [Crystal Gateway Marriott](#) on February 22. We have issued over 500 invitations to government and industry officials. Five NAEGA members are already planning to sponsor promotional displays at the reception. Companies who would like to place promotional displays at the reception need to advise us now of their intentions to sponsor the Reception.

At the [Gala Centennial Dinner](#), held at [Trump National Golf Club](#) on February 23, we expect a keynote address from Canadian Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Gerry Ritz and have confirmed entertainment by [The Capitol Steps](#), who have developed a new routine for the 2012 election cycle. NAEGA Members who plan on attending the dinner are encouraged to bring their spouses. 8 full table sponsorships and 2 half-table sponsorships have already been confirmed. This business dress affair will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate the past and set the stage for another 100 years of NAEGA!

Details on how to sponsor the February 22 Global Industry Reception, Reserve seats for the Gala Centennial Dinner, Register for the Annual Meetings and Centennial Celebration and book a room at the Crystal Gateway Marriott are available on the [Member's Only Section](#) of the NAEGA website and under "Meetings" on the [NAEGA Personal Pages Site](#).

Please let us know your plans for the Celebration and meetings as soon as possible!

**NAEGA Committee & Member Meetings** – NAEGA is working with members ahead of the 2012 Annual Meetings on February 22 and 23 to prepare agendas for 2012 and reports on actions taken. This week, the NAEGA-NGFA Alternative Security Program (ASP) User's Group met via conference call to discuss NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter's upcoming travel to Seattle, Washington for the U.S. Coast Guard's ASP User Meeting and other topics related to port security.

Other upcoming meetings include:

- The **NAEGA Biotech Committee** will hold a conference call on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 2pm Eastern, 1pm Central, 11am to consider the Committee agenda for 2012, prepare for the NAEGA annual meetings on Feb. 22 and 23 and update Committee members on current issues. A tentative agenda for the call, background information and the call in coordinates will be sent out in the coming week.
- The **NAEGA Contracts Committee** will hold a conference call on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 1pm Eastern, 12pm Central, 10am Pacific to consider the Committee agenda for 2012, prepare for the NAEGA annual meetings on Feb. 22 and 23 and update Committee members on current issues. A tentative agenda for the call, background information and the call in coordinates will be sent out in the coming week.

- **NAEGA Senior Advisor Jerry Cotter** will be travelling to Seattle, Washington from January 29-February 3, 2012 for the U.S. Coast Guard Alternative Security Program (ASP) User Group meetings. Jerry is planning on driving down to Portland, Oregon on January 30th & 31st to meet with NAEGA members and update them on current NAEGA action on maritime issues, the NAEGA-FGIS Export Monitoring Survey, and the ASP. If you would like to meet with Jerry during his time in the Pacific Northwest, contact Patrick Hayden at the NAEGA office to arrange an appointment.

**Rail Car In-Transit Fumigation—Setting the record straight** – NAEGA Member Degesch America points out incorrect information regarding rail car fumigation provided in a recent publication. Unfortunately, a notable pest management professional has incorrectly reported that *“Fumigating railcars in transit with Phosphine isn’t on the label, so it would be illegal”*. To the contrary, Section 22.5 of the Phostoxin® Tablets and Pellets label/applicator’s manual clearly states *“Railcars and containers, trucks, vans and other transport vehicles shipped piggyback by rail may be fumigated in-transit”*. You can also find this same statement in many of other Degesch product labels. Degesch explains “The first question that should be asked of the receiver after receiving product displaying live insect activity is “Where is your copy of the Fumigation Management Plan (FMP) regarding this shipment?” By reviewing the FMP they would be able to understand the processes involved surrounding the particular instances for the shipment(s) in question. It would contain the fumigant applicator’s contact information, application procedures, sealing techniques, dosage rates, railcar(s) receiving instructions and a plethora of other pertinent information. Upon receipt of the railcar(s) the receiver is responsible for taking PH<sub>3</sub> gas concentration readings, proper aeration procedures and disposal of spent fumigant. All of this information may be found in federally mandated U.S. Environmental Protection Agency applicator’s manuals which are an extension of the container labels. Reading and following the important information found in product manuals is an essential part of any successful phosphine fumigation. For more information please visit the Degesch website at [www.degeschamerica.com](http://www.degeschamerica.com).

**Award Nominations Open** – Please contact us now to nominate persons who have exhibited distinguished leadership in free trade and outstanding promotion of agriculture for NAEGA’s highest distinction, the Amstutz Award! More details on the award are available on the [Amstutz Tribute page of the NAEGA Website](#). If you would like to nominate an individual for the award, please contact Gary Martin at the NAEGA office.

**NAEGA Membership Dues** – Invoices for NAEGA’s 2012 Membership Dues have been mailed and payment is due by February 1. Prompt payment is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the NAEGA office.

#### **NAEGA Action Items:**

**EU, RED** – NAEGA is taking part in a U.S. soybean industry stakeholders trip to European Union and United Kingdom to promote an alternate approach to meeting the sustainability requirements of the EU’s Renewable Energy Directive (RED) from January 21-26, 2012.

NAEGA Senior Advisor Kirk Miller will be joining the team and travelling with the assistance of NAEGA’s Market Access Program (MAP) funds. Kirk will travel with the team first to The Hague in the Netherlands, then to Brussels, Belgium and finally to London. At each destination

they will meet with Government officials, USDA Foreign Agriculture Service staff and local oilseed and grain trade representatives to present and discuss a U.S.-industry produced alternative to the RED requirements. NAEGA has been tracking the EU RED issue on the [NAEGA personal pages](#) and the [NAEGA Board of Directors webpage](#).

**World, Open-ended Workshop on the International Movement of Grain** – In response to NAEGA’s work at the December 2011 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Open-ended Workshop on the International Movement of Grain, NAPPO Executive Director Ian McDonnell has written to NAEGA thanking us for our contributions to the Workshop’s discussions regarding international standards on the movement of grain and for planning and hosting the welcome reception for workshop attendees. The Workshop's purpose was to explore effectiveness of current international phytosanitary procedures and examine whether there is a need to begin the 7 year process to develop an international phytosanitary grain standard. Participants included government and industry from most of the regional plant protection organizations throughout the world.

NAEGA has placed a high priority on engagement in this process. NAEGA Senior Advisors Kirk Miller and Arvid Hawk worked with U.S. trade associations and International stakeholders to develop a unified Industry position for the workshop. Recognizing the potential for a very significant impact to international trade of grains and oilseeds, both Arvid and Kirk delivered relevant presentations and completed extensive information gathering on behalf of NAEGA while attending the Workshop. An official final report from the Workshop is expected to guide actions in 2012 undertaken by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

Kirk and Arvid’s report on the Workshop has been posted to the [NAEGA MAP Committee Webpage](#). NAEGA actions related to phyto-sanitary measures including multi-national developments like the workshop and other initiatives under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) are tracked on the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#) and the [NAEGA Grades Committee Webpage](#). Mr. McDonnell’s letter has been posted to both sites.

**World, Trans Pacific Partnership** - NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) submitted comments to the Office of the U.S Trade Representative in support of Canada, Japan, and Mexico’s interests in taking part in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations. The comments support the inclusion of all three countries in the TPP negotiations, noting that all three are major U.S. agricultural trading partners and that inclusion of all three in the TPP would “contribute to a comprehensive agreement that provides for gains in the provision of food safety and security, grain and oilseed product quality, and necessary protection of plant health, while providing for vibrant agriculture economies.” Specific comments on each country included:

- **Canada** - The U.S and Canada share the world's largest and most comprehensive bilateral trading relationship, which supports millions of jobs in both countries. In 2010, the United States exported \$249.1 billion in merchandise, including agricultural products, representing 75 percent of the value of Canada’s imports. The comments note that in 2009, nearly 30 percent (\$9.8 billion) of U.S.-Canada agricultural trade was generated by grains and oilseeds and that the U.S. exported \$384.4 million in corn to Canada in 2009, representing 97 percent of Canada's corn imports. The comments also point out that in

2012 NAEGA & NGFA expect Canada's Marketing Freedom for Grain Farmers Act to complete the effort to end the egregious single-desk, official monopoly marketing program of the Canadian Wheat Board. The Canadian government also is providing global leadership in the serious trade impediments related to the low-level presence (LLP) of genetically modified plant material in U.S. export shipments.

- **Mexico** – In 2010, the United States and Mexico traded \$393 billion in goods, making Mexico our third largest trading partner. U.S. exports of agricultural products to Mexico totaled \$11.8 billion in 2010, also making Mexico the third largest U.S. agriculture export market and the largest market for U.S. grains and oilseeds products in the Americas. As of January 1, 2008, the final North American Free Trade Agreement provisions successfully took effect, eliminating tariffs and quotas on all varieties of U.S. grains and oilseeds, including sensitive corn/maize imports. Accordingly, U.S. grains and oilseeds are competitively priced and enjoy preferential market access, effectively solidifying a dominant market share for U.S. products. .
- **Japan** - Japan is among the largest importers of U.S. agricultural commodities and the United States usually has a very high market share – typically 90 percent for corn, 55 percent for wheat and 80 percent for soybeans. Japan is the world's largest corn importer and the United States is its largest feed grain supplier, providing more than 80 percent of its market share. Japan also is the third largest U.S. export market for grain sorghum, an important market for corn co-products, and by far the largest U.S. export market for barley, accounting for 60 percent of total exports.

Specifically concerning Japan's participation in TPP, NAEGA and the NGFA suggest that the United States work to include the following elements in the TPP:

1. Establish provisions to enhance food security and predictability of supply. An agreement that prohibits TPP parties from instituting export embargoes and other export-restrictive measures logically should be welcomed by Japan and other agriculture-product import-dependent TPP economies.
2. Consider appropriate graduated timelines and mechanisms to enable countries like Japan, which in the past have relied upon tariffs and import management, to continue their revitalization of agricultural economies and transition to a more open trading environment consistent with reductions in such tariffs and other import controls.
3. Incorporate provisions to increase and facilitate trade in agricultural products produced with new technologies, such as agricultural biotechnology.

The comments state that a successful TPP outcome will contribute to a comprehensive agreement that provides for gains in the provision of food safety and security, grain and oilseed product quality, and necessary protection of plant health, while providing for vibrant agriculture economies. They encourage completing a Trans-Pacific Partnership in 2012 that adds Canada, Japan and Mexico by mid-year 2012. The full comments can be found on [the public section of the NAEGA Website](#) under "Current News".

**U.S., Biotech** – The American Soybean Association (ASA) is holding an ASA Biotech Working Group Meeting on January 30-31 and NAEGA President Gary Martin plans to attend. The Meeting will address several issues that NAEGA is following, including an update on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Value Chain Communication on Biotech and Market Issues, which NAEGA has taken a lead role in drafting and presenting to industry with the help of ASA. The MOU seeks to provide for producer and market choice, allow for differentiated production and marketing mechanisms, strength the global competitiveness of U.S. grains and oilseeds, and to foster the innovation of crop biotechnology in the U.S. by having different stakeholders agree to work together to expand communication and understanding across the value chain addressing the lifecycle of U.S. traits. U.S. traits are those that are intended to be used, in use or previously used in field crop production in the United States. The meeting will also provide an update on China's biotech approvals and feature presentations from government and industry officials. The agenda for the meeting can [be found here](#). The MOU and related biotech action are tracked on the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#) and the [NAEGA Biotech Committee Webpage](#).

### **RELATED NEWS:**

**U.S.-Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council Stakeholder's Event** – The U.S.–Canada Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC) will be holding a stakeholder outreach event in Washington, DC on January 30-31, 2012. The RCC is an initiative launched in February of 2011 between the U.S and Canada aimed at promoting economic growth and job creation through increased regulatory transparency and coordination.

Bilateral working groups led by senior officials from regulatory agencies in both countries are developing work plans with objectives, deliverables and milestones for tangible progress within the RCC's two-year mandate. The January 30-31 event in Washington, D.C. is being held to allow for interested stakeholders to learn more about the RCC and to provide input to federal regulators as they finalize draft work plans. More information about the RCC and how you can register to attend the Stakeholder event on January 30 – 31, 2012 are available at the following link <http://www.trade.gov/rcc/>.

**U.S. Regulatory Agencies Unified Biotechnology Website Address Changed** – The U.S. Regulatory Agencies Unified Biotechnology Website, which provides a searchable database that covers genetically engineered crop plants intended for food or feed that have completed all recommended or required reviews for food, feed or planting use in the United States, has moved to a new web address. The new address is <http://www1.usgs.gov/usbiotechreg/>. The old URL has been discontinued.

### **CALENDAR & WEBSITE**

#### **Official Comments Calendar**

##### **January**

**24** – Comments due to U.S. Customs and Border Patrol on the proposed extension with a change to the burden hours of the cargo manifest/declaration, stow plan, container status messages and importer security filing: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-25/pdf/2011-30343.pdf>.

## **February**

**3** – Comments due to USTR on behalf of the US EU High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth:

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=USTR-2012-0001-0001>

**8** – Nominations to the U.S. Grain Inspection Advisory Committee due to GIPSA:

<http://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/01/09/2012-87/solicitation-of-nominations-for-members-of-the-usda-grain-inspection-advisory-committee#p-11>

**27** - Comments due to USDA/APHIS on the Dow AgroScience Petition for nonregulated status of GMO corn DAS-40278-9, genetically engineered for resistance to broadleaf herbicides:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-27/pdf/2011-33009.pdf>

**27** -Comments due to USDA/APHIS on Monsanto's Petition for nonregulated status of GMO soybean MON 87769, genetically engineered to produce stearidonic acid, an omega-3 non-fatty acid not found in conventional soybeans:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-27/pdf/2011-33002.pdf>

**27** - Comments due to USDA's Farm Service Agency on the proposed extension of currently approved information collection that supports the End-Use Certificate Program:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-29/pdf/2011-33443.pdf>

## **Activities Calendar**

### **January**

**21-26** – U.S. Stakeholders Trip to the EU to promote alternatives to EU RED – Kirk Miller attending for NAEGA

**25** – NAEGA Biotech Committee Conference Call

**26** – NAEGA Contracts Committee Conference Call

**30** – Washington, DC – American Soybean Association Biotech Working Group Meeting – Gary Martin Attending

### **February**

**2-3** – Seattle, WA – U.S. Coast Guard ASP User's Meeting – Jerry Cotter Attending

**14** – Washington, DC – Office of Foreign Assets Control International Trade Symposium. Gary Martin Attending.

**22** – Arlington, VA – International Grain Trade Coalition Meeting and NAEGA Global Industry Reception

**23** – Arlington, VA – 2012 NAEGA Annual Meetings and Centennial Celebration

### **March**

**18-20** – Charleston, SC – NGFA 2012 Convention

## June

7 – London, United Kingdom – 2012 International Grains Council Grains Conference – [www.igc.int](http://www.igc.int)

## October

1-5 – Hyderabad, India – COP/MOP 6 to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

4-12 – Edinburgh, United Kingdom - 52nd European Commodities Exchange

<http://www.ece-edinburgh2012.com/>

**NAEGA, Issue Tracking** – NAEGA has updated the NAEGA Personal Pages website to include the new Issue Tracking system, which will improve the way NAEGA communicates to members regarding progress on issues.

NAEGA Issues & Decision Memos have been added to the site under the section currently titled “Events”. The events section will be retitled to “Current Issues”, and each Issue has its own page, containing background information on the issue and updates on current progress on the issue. The Issue Pages can be updated by Board, Committee and other persons who have been granted access to add information. New issues will be posted as NAEGA begins work on them. The issues will be sorted by the most recent updates, and the Personal Pages site can be searched by subject. All persons who have set up a Personal Page can access this information.

If you have not yet registered for the Personal Pages, or have forgotten your log in information, please contact Patrick Hayden at [phayden@naega.org](mailto:phayden@naega.org). He will set up your account or reset your log in information and send you a temporary password. You can find a user’s guide for the [Personal Pages here](#).

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA.

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