



Celebrating 100 Years

February 14, 2012

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

Member Action Items:

NAEGA Annual Meetings & Centennial Celebration Update; and NAEGA Membership Dues

NAEGA Action Items:

China, Soybean Buying Team and U.S., NAEGA Recommendation for GIPSA Advisory Committee

Related News:

Treasury Department Publishes International Boycott List; Federal Agencies Issue Semiannual Regulatory Agenda; New Mechanical Seal Standard for Cargo Containers; and CBP Requests Public Comments on Information Collection

Calendar and Website:

Upcoming events an Issue Tracking

MEMBER ACTION ITEMS:

NAEGA 2012 Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration Minister Gerry Ritz Confirmed to Address the Gala Dinner!

We are honored to report that Canadian Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Gerry Ritz **has confirmed** his plans to deliver the keynote address at the **NAEGA Gala Centennial Dinner** on February 23, 2012! Minister Ritz's address is part of an evening that includes cocktails, dinner, NAEGA awards, and a performance by [The Capitol Steps](#), making the evening a "**Once in a Lifetime**" event that will set the stage for another 100 years of NAEGA!

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. A list of the Confirmed Reception and Dinner Attendees is [available here](#). If you have RSVP'd for either event and do not see your name on that list, or if you need to make any corrections, please contact the NAEGA office immediately.

If you have not yet done so, please **Act NOW** to confirm your company's plans for these opportunities! The room block at the Crystal Gateway Marriott has been filled, but there are several hotels in the area that offer similar rates to those available at the Crystal Gateway. If you need assistance in booking a room, please contact the NAEGA office.

The most recent draft agenda is [available here](#). If you have made plans to attend, or would like to attend, and have not yet informed the NAEGA office, please let us know your plans for the Celebration by contacting Patrick Hayden at 202-682-4030 or via email at phayden@naega.org as soon as possible!

NAEGA Membership Dues – Payments for NAEGA's 2012 Membership Dues were due on February 1. If you have not yet submitted your payment, prompt action is appreciated. Thank you to all NAEGA members who have already submitted their payments. If you have any questions, please contact the NAEGA office.

NAEGA Action Items:

China, Soybean Buying Team – On February 15, the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) is hosting a Chinese Soybean Buying Team for a “Sino-U.S. Agricultural Trade Cooperation Conference & Soybean Contract Signing Ceremony” in Des Moines, Iowa. NAEGA member representatives will be taking part in the ceremony and will give the Chinese team a brief introduction to NAEGA.

U.S., NAEGA Recommendation for GIPSA Advisory Committee – NAEGA has joined with the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) in submitting a letter to USDA's Grain, Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), supporting the application of Maria Reinitz of Gaviolon Grain to serve on GIPSA's Grain Inspection Advisory Committee. The letter notes that NAEGA and NGFA find Maria to be an excellent candidate to “support your interest in securing committee members to help GIPSA better meet the needs of its customers who operate in a dynamic and changing marketplace”. The full letter can be found on the [Public Section of the NAEGA website](#) under “Current News”

RELATED NEWS:

Treasury Department Publishes International Boycott List – The Department of the Treasury has published a current list of countries which require or may require participation in, or cooperation with, an international boycott. The list includes Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. Iraq is not included on the list, but its status with respect to future lists remains under review by the Department of the Treasury. U.S. companies that do business with these countries are required to file an annual International Boycott Report (IBR) with their federal tax returns. IBR's are required of U.S. taxpayers to report operations in, with, or related to, countries participating in boycotts not sanctioned by the U.S. government. Covered operations include any business or commercial transactions, even if they do not generate income. The full notice is available online at the [Federal Register](#).

Federal Agencies Issue Semiannual Regulatory Agenda – U.S. Government Agencies have released their semiannual review of their regulatory agendas. Items of interest to NAEGA Members are:

- USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) potential next steps on new regulations on the “Introduction Of Organisms And Products Altered Or Produced Through Genetic Engineering”. APHIS has not yet announced a next step for the proposed regulations, which would revise the regulations regarding the importation, interstate movement, and environmental release of certain genetically engineered organisms in order to bring the regulations into alignment with provisions of the Plant Protection Act. The revisions would also update the regulations in response to advances in genetic science and technology.
- APHIS is preparing a proposed rule to revise its regulations regarding the movement of plant pests. The revised regulations would address the importation and interstate movement of plant pests, biological control organisms, and associated articles, and the release into the environment of biological control organisms. The revision would also address the movement of soil and establish regulations governing the biocontainment facilities in which plant pests, biological control organisms, and associated articles are held. This proposal would clarify the factors that would be considered when assessing the risks associated with the movement of certain organisms, facilitate the movement of regulated organisms and articles in a manner that also protects U.S. agriculture, and address gaps in the current regulations.

A full listing of the 2012 Federal Regulatory Agenda is available online at the [Federal Register](#).

New Mechanical Seal Standard for Cargo Containers – U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recently advised members of the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) that effective March 1 the current International Organization for Standardization (ISO) mechanical seal standard, ISO/PAS 17712, will be replaced with new standard, ISO 17712:2010. CBP is not requiring C-TPAT participants to discard any high-security container seals that may not comply with the new standard that are currently in stock but is encouraging them to purchase compliant seals when their existing stocks are exhausted. CBP also states that when C-TPAT companies transition to new seals they should request documentation (lab reports) to confirm that the seals comply with the new standard.

CBP states that the updated standard includes the following requirements: testing to determine a seal’s classification for physical strength (as a barrier of entry), process auditing of the manufacturer’s security-related business practices, testing (pass/fail) of a seal’s ability to indicate evidence of tampering, and a new 18mm minimum width diameter for bolt seals. CBP adds that benefits of complying with the revised standard include a reduced possibility of cargo theft or tampering, fewer shipping delays resulting from missing or broken seals, and easier detection of compromised seals.

CBP Requests Public Comments on Information Collection – U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is requesting public comments on the proposed extension without change of the following information collections.

- CBP Form 300, Bonded Warehouse Proprietor's Submission: This form is filed annually by each warehouse proprietor, and the information thereon helps CBP determine all

bonded merchandise that was entered, released and manipulated in the warehouse. [Click here for CBP notice.](#)

- Country of Origin Marking Requirements for Containers or Holders: Each imported article of foreign origin or its container must be marked with the English name of the country of origin in a conspicuous place as legibly, indelibly and permanently as the nature of the article or container permits. [Click here for CBP notice.](#)

Comments are due no later April 9. Details on submission requirements are available on each CBP notice.

CALENDAR & WEBSITE

Official Comments Calendar

February

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>

April

9 – Comments due to U.S Customs and Border Patrol on the proposed extension without change of the following information collections: Country of Origin Marking Requirements for Containers or Holders ([Click here](#)) and CBP Form 300, Bonded Warehouse Proprietor's Submission ([Click here](#))

Activities Calendar

February

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

29-31 – Brighton, England – Dry Bulk Terminal Group Meetings. Jerry Cotter attending for NAEGA

May

7-9 – Kansas City, Missouri – 2012 International Food Aid & Development Conference

June

7 – London, United Kingdom – 2012 International Grains Council Grains Conference – www.igc.int

October

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

4-12 – Edinburgh, Scotland, 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. 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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