



## December 11, 2020 Volume 1, Nr. 14

Thank you to [FCL Logistics](#) and [Roberts & Kehagiaras LLP](#) for sponsoring our webinar this week. We had a great turnout for a great topic and hope everyone is ready for our final webinar of the year (and annual holiday party) coming next week.

Note that next week will be the final edition of the FTA Newsletter for 2020. The newsletter will not be publishing on Christmas and New Year's and will return on Friday, January 8th.

### Links and stories of interest:

#### **This Week in TikTok: And the Most Popular Video of the Year Is ...**

What does Bella Poarch's hypnotizing head-bobbing video say about algorithm-driven entertainment?

#### **Mexican Cartels Are Now Cooking Chinese Chemicals in Dutch Meth Labs**

Narco gangs piggyback legal business networks to tap rich markets worldwide.

---

## Government Actions and Trade

#### **Apple Ignored Breaches of China Labor Law, The Information Says**

The company said it assesses suppliers, including through surprise audits, and evaluates more than 500 criteria to ensure compliance.

#### **U.S. Challenges Canadian Dairy-Tariff Quotas Under USMCA**

Canada's allocation of dairy tariff-rate quotas undermines the ability of American dairy farmers selling a wide range of products to Canadian

consumers.

### **Bipartisan Complaints on MTB Products Could Prevent Renewal**

Democrats and at least one Republican in the House have objected to products included in the next Miscellaneous Tariff Bill, a lobbyist interested in MTB told International Trade Today, complaining about both inputs and consumer goods.

### **Defunct Jewelry Importer to Pay \$400,000 to Settle Whistleblower Suit on Misclassification**

A former jewelry importer will pay more than \$400,000 to settle a False Claims Act whistleblower lawsuit that alleges it intentionally misclassified imported earrings to avoid paying higher customs duties.

### **U.S. Exports, Imports Rise for Fifth Month as Shipments to China Hit a Record**

A continued recovery in global commerce is being driven by a strong economic rebound in China

### **Harmonized Tariff Schedule July 2020 Summary**

HTS Update Summary of Updates Now Available

### **CBP Announces New Facial Biometric Comparison Technology in Nassau, Bahamas**

CBP's biometric facial comparison process will compare the new photo of the traveler to a small gallery of high-quality images that the traveler has already provided to the government, such as passport and visa photos.

### **What to Expect from Biden Administration on Asia Pacific Trade Matters**

A shift back toward coalition building in trade discussions will be the major outcome under a new administration, a longtime trade specialist told the California Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors last week.

### **US-China Crude Trade to Support Large Tankers Despite Bearish Outlook Over Shale Output**

US-China crude trade to support large tankers despite bearish outlook over shale output.

---



**TRADE AND TRANSPORT ATTORNEYS**

**ROBERTS & KEHAGIARAS LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

[LEARN MORE](#)



FTA  
Celebrating 100 Years

**FTA's Annual Holiday Celebration**  
December 17, 2020, 1:00- 2:00 PM PST

Presentation of 2020's *Marjorie M. Shostak Award*

WEBINAR  
**The Bridge to Everywhere:  
Logistics in the 21st Century**

Keynote Speaker  
**Noel Hacegaba**  
Deputy Executive Director  
Port of Long Beach

Dr. Noel Hacegaba will give an update on the Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement also known as the "Bridge to Everywhere." He will discuss the benefits that the new bridge will have for the international trade community.

Tickets:  
Members \$25, Non-Members \$45  
**\$200 Sponsorships Available**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Photo Courtesy of the Port of Long Beach

[www.foreigntradefederation.com](http://www.foreigntradefederation.com) 888-223-6459 [info@foreigntradefederation.com](mailto:info@foreigntradefederation.com)

## Virtually getting together for the holidays.

We know how crazy it is here in California - and the rest of the country is equally challenged by COVID as we head into the winter months. So we're going to get together for a virtual holiday party this year and our guest speaker is Noel Hacegaba, the Deputy Executive Director of the Port of Long Beach. We will also have the Marjorie M. Shostak Award ceremony. Don't miss it!

Thanks to our sponsors, [Interstate Personnel Services](#) and [Roberts & Kehagiaras LLP](#)

Members: \$25.00  
Non-members: \$45.00  
Sponsorships: \$200.00

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

## Environmental

### Wärtsilä Propeller Solutions Enable Energy Savings Through Slow Steaming

As container ship operators continue to seek energy savings through slow steaming, the necessary engine adjustments need to be matched by the propeller arrangement.

### Crude Oil Tanker Suffers Engine Room Fire Off Taiwan

A Liberian-flagged tanker has suffered an engine fire off Orchid Island, Taiwan, prompting a helicopter rescue by authorities.

### Australian Company Launches Deep Sea Carbon Capture Project Off Australia

An Australian company has lined up the country's national science agency and Japanese firms to work on a plan to capture carbon dioxide, and liquefy and transport it to a site offshore Australia to be injected under the seabed.

### Trump Administration Encourages Offshore Drilling in Final Energy Push

The Gulf of Mexico has 68 deep-water offshore facilities, of which 38 produce at less than 25% of their full capacity.



## Got a story idea?

The FTA wants to hear from you! Is there a topic or industry that we're not covering that you'd like to see more of? Drop us an email by clicking the button below with your suggestions.

[EMAIL YOUR STORY  
IDEA](#)



## FTA New Member Thank You!

The FTA would like to acknowledge our new members each week in our newsletter. We sincerely appreciate their support and participation. Your FTA leadership continues to focus on delivering value during this time of social distancing and know that as we move into 2021 and back to in-person events that the opportunities will only continue to expand.

William Edwards, Edwards Global Services, Inc.  
Veronica Lopez, Cal Cartage Customs Exam Station LLC  
Alisa Mammadova, Export Portal  
Edgar Orellana, Cal Cartage Customs Exam Station LLC  
Ramiro Ramirez, Cal Cartage Customs Exam Station LLC  
Kevin Rivera, Cal Cartage Customs Exam Station LLC  
Gabby Salinas, Cal Cartage Customs Exam Station LLC  
Pat Vangtan, DB Schenker  
Pedro Villanueva, Western Digital Corporation  
Dan Williams, LoadStar Customs Inspection Insurance, LLC

## Maritime

### Port of Long Beach November Volumes Jump 30%

The strong volumes could be attributed to imports which jumped a similar 30.5% to 382,677 TEUs.

### FMC User Fees Scheduled to Be Revised in January

A list of the fees can be found on the Commission's website and will be updated on January 27, 2021.

### **FMC Chairman Addresses Export Container Availability**

The Commission has heard from numerous stakeholders that shipping lines are using an expansive definition that holds companies responsible for ancillary transportation charges that they did not contract for and may not legally be required to pay.

### **Commissioners Bentzel and Maffei Urge MARAD and CDC to Prioritize Maritime Workforce**

This week, Commissioners Carl W. Bentzel and Daniel B. Maffei sent a letter to MARAD Administrator Adm. Mark Buzby and CDC Director Dr. Robert Redfield, urging them to prioritize PPE, rapid testing supplies, and vaccines for the maritime workforce.

### **ONE Apus Arrives in Kobe, Revealing Cargo Loss of Epic Proportions**

The ship is now safely berthed in the Port of Kobe after losing 1,816 containers overboard when it encountered severe weather on Monday, November 30, 2020

### **ONE Apus Customer Advisory**

### **Maersk Gives All Employees a Grand Christmas with Surprise Bonus**

Bonus is an 'exceptional recognition' of global staff's hard work during a difficult year.

### **Major Container Forwarders Split on Merits of Chartering Ships**

That DHL Global Forwarding is considering chartering ships for container customers shows the extent to which the extended peak season has soaked up container capacity out of Asia into Europe and North America.

## **FTA Membership Opportunity**

### **Interested in Becoming a Member of the Foreign Trade Association?**

The FTA is offering 50% off on Corporate and Individual memberships for new members from now until the end of December.

- Corporate = \$300 (Regularly \$600)
- Individual = \$150 (Regularly \$300)

To qualify as a new member, there must be at least an 18-month lapse from the previous membership. An individual who has left a company that was or is a member is also eligible for this promotion.

Other conditions and restrictions apply. Visit our website to learn more and join today!

## Videos of the Week

### USTR Nominee Introduction

President-Elect Biden this week announced his nominee for US Trade Representative. He selected former House Ways & Means Chief Counsel Katherine Tai. She introduced herself today at the administration's transition headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware.



## Logistics and Trade

### For Airlines, Dry Ice in Vaccine Transport Demands Special Attention

The refrigerant needed to maintain some doses during distribution is regulated as a dangerous good for aviation transport

### Reshoring Starts with Mapping Suppliers

When the book *How COVID-19 Changed Supply Chains* is written, it will include chapters on reshoring—bringing manufacturing back to the United States—and nearshoring—bringing them closer to home. But there won't be a chapter titled "How COVID-19 Ended China's Manufacturing Dominance."

### Supply Chain Disruption Breaks Honda's JIT Methodology

Honda has announced its Swindon-based manufacturing plants inability to procure parts due to vessel delays and congestion at UK ports

## Editorial

*This week's commentary comes from Cameron Roberts of Roberts & Kehagiaras, LLP*

### **New Tai's with China?**

This week, the Biden Administration announced Katherine Tai as U.S. trade representative. She is fluent in Mandarin and served in the Trade Representative's Office of General Counsel, becoming chief counsel for China trade enforcement.

Tai would also be the second Asian American woman to be named to a Cabinet-level position. Chinese media reports are neutral, as China takes a wait and see approach to the Biden Administration, but echoed the WSJ and Politico's report that "almost everyone likes her."

While that may not be a ringing endorsement in some circles, it is lavish praise by D.C. standards. For those who are tired of trade policy by Tweet, Katherine Tai's nomination is welcome and a step towards a new normalization of trade with China, but with an ongoing trade war with the U.S. and Australia, and possibly India, a new normal may not look so new for years to come.

## Upcoming Events

**December 14th - StartUp Global SoCal - Explore simple steps startups and small businesses can take to succeed globally, 5:00 - 6:00 PM PST**  
[Registration now open here.](#)

**December 15th - LACBFFA - Challenges of De Minimis Under Section 321 and Entry Type 86, 11 - 12 PM PT.** [Registration now open here](#)

**December 16th - Culture's Role in Your International Business - from the US Commercial Service.** 12:00 - 1:30 PM PT For anyone who does business internationally and specifically in Brazil, Chile, China, the GCC Countries, India, and Vietnam, this is a must attend webinar to gain a better understanding of the role culture plays in successful communications, negotiations, and business relationships. There are differing concepts of time, task and relationship orientations and hierarchy and patterns of communication. Our speakers will address these and other nuances of culture's role in your international business. [Registration now open here](#)

**December 17 - LACBFFA Holiday Countdown to 2021 -5:00 - 7:30 PM PT -**  
[Registration now open here](#)

**December 17 - FTA WEBINAR & Virtual Holiday Party - The Bridge to Everywhere - 1:00 - 2:00 PM PST** -Join us for our annual holiday gathering - virtually for safety, of course ,featuring Port of Long Beach Deputy Executive

Director Noel Hacegaba. [Registration now open here](#)

**January 26 - WEBINAR -Forced Labor in today's global trade environment** - 1:00 - 2:00 PM PST -This webinar will offer a unique perspective to importers looking to create or enhance their forced labor compliance programs. [More details to follow!](#)