

Hong Kong and Southern California have long been connected as partners in commerce and culture. The increasingly intrusive role of Beijing's government and Chinese influence on Hong Kong's legal and legislative systems have many companies and governments worried about what autonomy the Special Access Region has left.

A Hong Kong newspaper owner was <u>sentenced to fourteen months in prison</u> today for his role in 2019 protests, along with several others who have been barred from running for seats in the government.

The US State Department under Secretary Blinken has taken a vocal role in denouncing actions like this and undoubtedly will continue in this case and others.

FTA's 95TH WORLD TRADE WEEK VIRTUAL EVENT Registration Now Open!



Exploring the International Trade Landscape

Mid-Year Update: Customs, PGA's and Other Current Issues Affecting Trade

World trade significantly contributes to the nation's economy and has developed a vast new horizon for America's businesses. World Trade Week (WTW) celebrates the industry and dedicates itself to informing the public on the benefits and importance of global trade on the overall economy through a series of events and educational programs. Please join us for our 95th Annual World Trade Week event!

> Presentation of Marjorie M. Shostak Distinguished Service Award

Segment 1 U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP)

Segment 2 Participating Government Agencies (PGA's) U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC)

> Segment 3 Private Industry Experts

Current Issues Affecting Trade – Insider Perspectives

EVENT SPONSORS







Links and stories of interest:

Japan's ketchup king halts Xinjiang tomato imports

CALL FOR NOMINEES FOR SHOSTAK AWARD

The FTA has opened nominations for candidates to be considered for the 2021 Marjorie M. Shostak Distinguished Service Award. Past recipients include: Marjorie M. Shostak, Robert D. Kleist, Sam Orr, Judge R. Kenton Musgrave, Lew Coppersmith, Bruce Leeds, Lanie Denslow, Richard D. Steinke and Anne Hilsabeck.

Click the button below to read a letter from FTA President Cathy Thrasher which links to a nomination submission form.

DOWNLOAD LETTER



Marjorie M. Shostak, the namesake of the award.

Government Actions and Trade

U.K. Businesses Burn Cash as Brexit Bureaucracy Takes Its Toll Breaking free of Brussels bureaucracy was meant to herald a bonfire of red tape for Britain. In the first 100 days of Brexit, the only thing many businesses burned was money.

China's Growth Set to Drive World Economy in Post-Pandemic Years

China will contribute more than one-fifth of the total increase in the world's gross domestic product in the five years through 2026, according to Bloomberg calculations based on IMF forecasts published Tuesday.

The Case for a Transit-First Infrastructure Plan

President Biden's \$2 trillion jobs plan would double the federal contribution to public transit. But to fight climate change and broaden access to opportunity, that won't be enough.

Panasonic VP Hopes for 'More Measured Use' of Tariffs Under Biden

The Section 301 tariffs on Chinese goods imposed under President Donald Trump had "a significant impact" on Panasonic North America, Jeff Werner, vice president-corporate and government affairs, told the Consumer Technology Association virtual Innovation Policy Summit April 14.

USTR Says Globalization Leads to Race to Bottom in Environmental Standards

U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said the U.S. has made progress on combating illegally trafficked timber in trade agreements and regional dialogues, and that global rules on that issue and on subsidies that lead to overfishing can be achieved.

Seven Republicans Against Tax Incentives for Solar Panels Made in Xinjiang

Seven Republican senators, led by Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., said that there

should be no taxpayer support for solar panels made in the Xinjiang province of China.

U.S. Puts Fresh Sanctions on Russia Over Hacking, Election Interference President Biden on Thursday announced retaliatory measures against Russia over election interference, the SolarWinds cyberattack and other malign activity, saying he isn't seeking to kick off "a cycle of escalation" but would take more drastic action if necessary.

CBP Air and Marine Operations and Partners Seize Combined 4 Tons of Cocaine in Eastern Pacific

Between February 27 and March 22, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Air and Marine Operations (AMO) P-3 aircrews of the National Air Security Operations Centers (NASOC) partnered with federal and international authorities to disrupt four smuggling attempts in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and seized a combined four tons of cocaine, denying narcotics traffickers approximately \$152 million in illicit proceeds.

Opinion: Will Biden's Foreign Policy Sap His Domestic Policy?

In his first 100 days, President Biden has rolled out elements of his "build back better" domestic reform agenda, including the American Rescue Plan, his \$2 trillion infrastructure bill and a family plan soon to come.

American Rescue Plan: U.S. Stimulus Seen Widening Trade Deficit that Sparked Trump's Trade War with China

Higher US interest rates and widening trade imbalance with China said to be side effects of President Joe Biden's US\$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan.

UPDATE 1-Mexico Faces Challenge of Heterogeneous Economic Recovery -Cenbank Chief

Mexico's economy contracted by 8.5% in 2020, its deepest dive in almost 90 years, due to the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Biden Administration Should Say No to New Trade Deals With China Katherine Tai said last week she is in no rush to lift tariffs associated with the Trump administration's U.S.-China Phase One trade deal. She should reconsider.

Australia May Take China to WTO Over Wine

Australia has already taken its grievance about blocked Chinese barley exports to the WTO, as one of many commodities that are in dispute with its numberone trading partner, including beef, lobster and coal.



FTA NEWS



Getting the Crew Back Together -Navigating Frequent Return to Work COVID-19 Storms

As everyone prepares to get back to the office, we look at:

• Is requiring employees to be vaccinated advisable?

• What about pre-entrance testing and mandatory PPE before being allowed to return to work?

• What to do if an employee gets sick while at work / how to handle contact tracing?

• What is 'good cause' to continue working remotely?

April 28, 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 PM PT

Free to Silver, Gold & Platinum Members Members: \$25.00 Non-members: \$45.00 Sponsorship Available: \$200.00

First Sale Rule - It's Still Available To Lower Your Duty Exposure

The hurdle to prove First Sale has always been high, but has the recent decision at the U.S. Court of International Trade made this hurdle a bar too high for importers?

April 21, 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 PM PT

Free to Silver, Gold & Platinum Members Members: \$25.00 Non-members: \$45.00 Sponsorship Available: \$200.00

REGISTER HERE

FTA Event Sponsor: PRICE **Getting the Crew Back Together:** Navigating Frequent Return to Work COVID-19 Storms Date: April 28, 2021 Ticket Prices FREE for FTA Metal Members Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. PT Location: Zoom Webinar \$25 for members \$45 for non-members Register Here onsorships Available As everyone prepares to get back to the office, we look at Is requiring employees to be vaccinated advisable? What about pre-entrance testing and mandatory PPE before being allowed to return to work? What to do if an employee gets sick while at work / how to handle contact tracing? What is 'good cause' to continue working remotely? SUSAN KOHN ROSS \$888-223-6459 🕀 www.foreigntradeassociation.com info@foreigntradeassociation.com **Event Sponsor:** TRANSFER, INC.

REGISTER HERE





We encourage you to join us in the challenge to increase the FTA Friends of EXP Sponsorship amount with a contribution of your choice to further our commitment to EXP.

If you or your company is interested in directly supporting EXP, please use this link



info@foreigntradeassociation.com

Forced Labor - What it is and how to survive an audit

The social injustice of forced labor when coupled with the risk of substantial penalties and the loss of import privileges, makes a Forced Labor policy an integral part of any robust import compliance program. This webinar will describe the forced labor laws, how they are interpreted, and how to navigate a forced labor audit by CBP

April 29, 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 PM PT

Free to Silver, Gold & Platinum Members Members: \$25.00 Non-members: \$45.00 Sponsorship Available: \$200.00

EXP Oceans of Opportunity Sponsorship!

It is with great pleasure to announce that The FTA is proud sponsor of EXP's 21st Annual Oceans of Opportunity Event. The FTA is committed to partner with organizations within our community and EXP is certainly deserving of our support and encouragement.

We encourage you to join us in the challenge to increase the FTA Friends of EXP Sponsorship amount with a contribution of your choice to further our commitment to EXP.

April 29, 6:00 - 9:30 AM PT

Contribution amounts: \$25, \$50, \$75 and \$100

CONTRIBUTE HERE



JOSEPH ACAYAN Partner Givens & Johnston, PPLC

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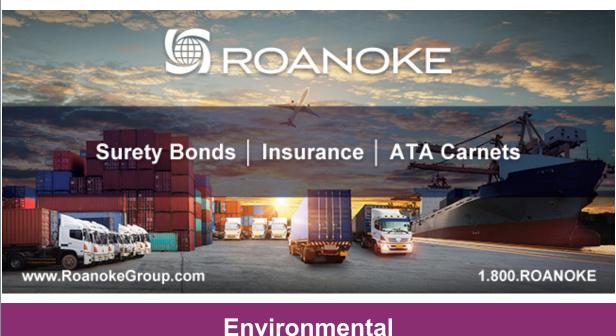
The West Coast's ONLY 2021 Maritime Trade & Compliance Seminar

Speakers will include Federal Maritime Commission's ("FMC") Chairman Daniel Maffei, and representatives from the FMC's Bureau of Trade Analysis, Bureau of Certification and Licensing, and the FMC's Los Angeles Area Representative to discuss ocean freight forwarder and non-vessel operating common carrier registration and licensing, tariff publication, CADRS, service contracts, NVOCC negotiated rate arrangements and NVOCC service arrangements and enforcement of the Shipping Act.

May 27, 10:00 AM - 3:15 PM PT

Free to Silver, Gold & Platinum Members Members: \$65.00 Non-members: \$85.00 Sponsorship Available: \$200.00

REGISTER TODAY



Biden Trade Chief Says U.S. Committed to Tackling Climate Change

President Joe Biden's trade chief used her first speech to reiterate the administration's commitment to fighting climate change, saying it will lay out ambitious new 2030 emissions targets for the Paris Agreement next week.

India Calls Out Historical Polluters Including U.S. Before Biden Climate Meeting

India wants historical polluters including the U.S. and Europe to finance and provide technologies for climate mitigation, its environment minister said ahead of President Joe Biden's planned leaders' meeting later this month.

Japan Joins U.S. in Urging China to Accelerate Climate Action

Japan urged China to accelerate efforts to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, echoing calls from the U.S. ahead of global climate talks later this month.

Fact Check-Video Shows a Refuge Chamber Used in Hazardous Environments, Not a Shipping Container Used to 'Transport Humans'

A video of a refuge chamber used to protect workers in hazardous environments has been mislabeled on social media, with users claiming it is a shipping container used for human trafficking.

St. Vincent Volcano Eruption: What We Know About the Caribbean Disaster

The La Soufrière volcano on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent began a series of explosive eruptions on April 9, sending clouds of hot ash some 20,000 feet into the air, blanketing much of the island in ash and causing water and electricity outages.

Sustainable Solutions to Improve Health and Reduce Hunger

Bayer CEO Werner Baumann acknowledges the tremendous challenges facing our world, from a global pandemic to a growing population.

Sea Turtles' trans-Pacific Journey

Discovering that the Mexican turtles were actually hatched in Japan opened a new question: How could a cold-blooded reptile cross from the warm Western Pacific into the cold Eastern Pacific without freezing to death?

The Urge to Complicate and Climatize Trade Policy

As part of its emerging plan to act to address climate change, the Biden administration is considering a novel and unproven trade barrier called a carbon border adjustment.



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 back to in-person events that the opportunities will only continue to expand.

YOUR NAME HERE - JOIN THE FTA!

Maritime

Ever Given Customers Face New Payments to Get Shipments Moving

Thousands of containers of goods are tied up in legal claims and centuries-old maritime principles requiring owners to post millions of dollars to share rescue costs.

Search Continuing for a Dozen Missing After Lift Boat Capsizes Off Port Fourchon

In a morning news conference, U.S. Coast Guard New Orleans Sector Commander Captain Will E. Watson confirmed the vessel as the Seacor Power operated by Houston-based Seacor Marine and provided an update on the ongoing mass search operation in the waters south of Port Fourchon.

Maersk Eureka Arrives in Long Beach a Month After Engine Breakdown in Pacific

A Maersk containership has berthed in Long Beach, California more than a month after its engine broke down the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

New Zealand to Phase Out Livestock Exports

New Zealand will cease the export of livestock by sea following a transition period of up to two years, Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor announced on Wednesday.

Investors Dump Commodities as Supercycle Call Meets Skepticism Net bullish wagers on rising commodity prices fell to the lowest since December last week, raising questions about the commodity supercycle.

Container Shipping: Record Carrier Profits Could Be Here to Stay

After cumulative ocean carrier profits exceeded some \$9bn for the final quarter of 2020, the returns for the liner industry could double that in Q1 this year.

Dry Bulk Shipping ETF is Stock Market's Top Performer in First Quarter of 2021

A dry bulk shipping exchange traded fund (ETF) has emerged as the top performing ETF in the first three months of 2021, reflecting a strong turnaround for the dry bulk sector.

Coming Capacity Wave May Put Brakes on Near-Term Carrier Profitability

New ship orders have soared in the past few months, but there are rumblings of unease over the supply-demand balance once the vessels enter service in a couple of years.

Global Marine Fender Market Will Be Fiercely Competitive by Top Companies in 2026

A regional study of the global Marine Fender Systems industry is also carried out in North America, Latin America, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the Near East & Africa.

Essential, Invisible: Covid has 200,000 Merchant Sailors Stuck at Sea Global trade depends on maritime workers, but the pandemic has thrust them into 'humanitarian and economic crisis'.



Video of the Week

March Madness at POLA

Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka announced cargo volume was 957,599 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in March 2021, a 113% leap compared to March 2020 when global trade slowed to a crawl at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic. It was the strongest March in the Port's 114-year history, its busiest first quarter, and by far the largest monthly year-over-year increase.



Logistics and Trade

'Madness' at the Port of Los Angeles as Cargo Surge Breaks March and Year-to-Date Records_

The Port of Los Angeles processed 957,599 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) last month for a 113% leap compared to March 2020 when global trade slowed to a crawl at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

LaserShip, OnTrac Top List of Fastest-Growing 'Trucking' Firms

Four parcel carriers were among the five fastest-growing trucking companies in 2020, thanks to a 44 percent increase in e-commerce spending, SJ Consulting Group data shows.

Lessors, Carriers Send New Container Orders Soaring

Carriers and shippers have struggled with a shortage of boxes since the middle of last year as port congestion and vessels delays soak up container capacity and delay the return of empty boxes to key export markets.

U.S. Providers Face Higher Costs After Duty Ruling on Chinese-Made Chassis

A U.S. International Trade Commission vote Tuesday clears the way for a countervailing duty on Chinese chassis and is likely to open the door to tripling the cost of chassis to importers, exporters, truckers, and chassis providers.

Capacity Crunch Traps Bangladesh-Bound Boxes at Transshipment Ports

Stakeholders fear a new COVID-19 lockdown that has gone into effect in Bangladesh will worsen congestion at the Chittagong port yard, further slowing the delivery of containers. April 21 – WEBINAR - First Sale: It's still available to lower your duty exposure, but is the hurdle now higher from nonmarket economies - 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM PT – Discussion on First Sale Rule with Erik Smithweiss from Grunfeld, Desiderio, Lebowitz, Silverman & Klestadt LLP - Register <u>here</u>

April 22 - CBFANC - WEBINAR - FORCED LABOR ENFORCEMENT & WITHHOLD RELEASE ORDERS - 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM PT - In a detailed webinar, the CBP Center for Apparel, Footwear and Textile, will provide guidance about Forced Labor Enforcement & Withhold Release Orders - Register <u>here</u>

April 22 - WITLA - WEBINAR -What's New to Look Out for in 2021 for the International Trade Community Business Laws, Customs Issues, Taxation and Insurance - 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM PT- Register <u>here</u>

April 28 - WEBINAR -Getting the Crew Back Together - Navigating Frequent Return to Work COVID-19 Storms - 1:00 PM -2:00 PM PT - We look at: Is requiring employees to be vaccinated advisable? What about preentrance testing and mandatory PPE before being allowed to return to work? What to do if an employee gets sick while at work / how to handle contact tracing? What is 'good cause' to continue working remotely? - Register <u>here</u>

April 29 - WEBINAR - Cal Asian Chamber - Adapting Your Business Model to Shifting Consumer Trends - 11:00 AM -12:00 PM PT - Join us and our partners at Wells Fargo for a wide-reaching conversation that will provide tangible advice to help your business create and implement strategies and identify resources to ensure your business is prepared - Register <u>here</u>

April 29 - WEBINAR - Forced Labor - What is it and how to survive an audit - 1:00 PM -2:00 PM PT - The social injustice of forced labor when coupled with the risk of substantial penalties and the loss of import privileges, makes a Forced Labor policy an integral part of any robust import compliance program. This webinar will describe the forced labor laws, how they are interpreted, and how to navigate a forced labor audit by CBP - Register <u>here</u>

May 2 - May 5 – 48th NCBFFA Annual Conference -Now in its 48th year, the NCBFAA Annual Conference brings together more than 600 of the international trade industry's top representatives from around the United States – Register <u>here</u>

May 6 – Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce 95th Annual World Trade Week – 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM PT - This years program will feature a panel on "The Future of Transportation and Supply Chains," addressing chain infrastructure, transportation challenges, and innovative solutions to increase the region's global competitiveness as we recover from the pandemic– Register <u>here</u>

May 11 - May 13 – Virtual Event - TIA 2021 Capital Ideas Conference - Meet virtually with top industry leaders and solutions providers and take advantage of over morning and afternoon live sessions with more than 12 hours sessions geared solely for 3PLs - Register here

May 20 – Virtual Event – FTA's 95th Annual World Trade Week Event -11:00 AM - 1:30 PM PT - World Trade Week (WTW) celebrates the industry and dedicates itself to informing the public on the benefits and importance of global trade on the overall economy through a series of events and educational programs. Please join us for our 95th Annual World Trade Week event! – Register <u>here</u>

May 27 - Virtual Event - The West Coast's ONLY 2021 Federal Maritime Commission Trade & Compliance Seminar - 10:00 AM - 1:15 PM PT -Speakers will include Federal Maritime Commission's ("FMC") Chairman Daniel Maffei, and representatives from the FMC's Bureau of Trade Analysis, Bureau of Certification and Licensing, and the FMC's Los Angeles Area Representative - Register <u>here</u>

June 9 - WIT-OC – The Bureau of Industry and Security "Complying with US Export Control_- A live event with BIS specialists on a professionally designed platform - *Details soon to follow!*

June 29- July 1 – AAEI – 100th Anniversary Conference & Expo – Save the Date – Details soon to follow!

July 20-22 – CBP Virtual Trade Week - U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will host its second Virtual Trade Week. Join CBP Executives and industry experts as they provide updates on CBP trade priorities and policies – Register <u>here</u>

July 25-28 - 2021 ICPA Summer Conference - Walt Disney World Swan & Dolphin Resort - Join other international trade compliance professionals for the 2021 ICPA Annual Conference in Orlando, FI - Register <u>here</u>

October 14-17 – WESCCON 2021 – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM PT- WESCCON offers one of the best opportunity to meet people in the global logistics industry – Register <u>here</u>