



June 4, 2021 Volume 2, Nr. 22

Los Angeles's goal to fully reopen on June 15th is only possible because of the current low levels of new cases, deaths, and the high number of those vaccinated. Californians can blindfold themselves and throw a dart on a map and likely hit a vaccination site; seafarers have not been so lucky.

Don't miss the link to the story below about those essential workers living aboard container ships have been literally trapped at their jobs for months on end, and are now finally getting the opportunity for vaccination at US ports. For these hard-working people who come from countries like India where the pandemic is still running rampant, it is a relief to know that they can be protected aboard ship where medical care in the middle of the ocean lacks nearby therapeutics, ventilators, or advanced life support.

Links and Stories of Interest:

Weary Seafarers Come Ashore in U.S. for J&J One-Dose Shots

From Boston to Houston and Los Angeles, and even in smaller trade gateways like Gulfport, Mississippi, local health officials and nonprofits are boarding container ships, tankers, and other cargo carriers to administer Covid-19 shots or, when possible, shuttling crews to nearby pharmacies and clinics.

U.S. Customs & Border Protection Announcement: New Executive Assistant Commissioner & Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner

On June 3, 2021 CBP welcomed the new Executive Assistant Commissioner, AnnMarie Highsmith and new Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner, John Leonard.



**KNOWLEDGE...
EXPERIENCE...
DEDICATION...**

Government Actions and Trade

Addressing Sanctions Risk in Maritime Trade

Global maritime shipping accounts for up to 90 percent of total international trade by volume and 70 percent by value. At the same time, the maritime industry is the key artery for sanctions evasion globally, a result of deceptive shipping practices used by bad actors.

US-China Economic Talks Put Spotlight on Yuan Exchange Rate as Currency Continues to Surge

The rapid appreciation of the yuan against the US dollar recently is likely to draw increased scrutiny from the Biden administration of China's opaque exchange rate mechanism, as high-level trade talks resume between the world's two biggest economies, analysts say.

China Customs Accuses Western Clothing Brands of Selling Substandard Products Amid Xinjiang Row

In a warning notice published on its website, China's General Administration of Customs listed 81 batches of imported children's clothing products for quality and safety risks spotted during examinations from June 2020 to May 2021, involving garments, toys, toothbrushes, shoes and baby bottles.

U.S. to Levy Tariffs Over Digital-Service Tax, but Suspend Implementation

U.S. trade representative Katherine Tai said investigations determined that tariffs were justified because of digital-services taxes imposed on U.S. companies by the U.K., Austria, India, Italy, Spain and Turkey.

U.K. to Begin Process to Join Trans-Pacific Trade Partnership

Japanese Economy Minister Yasutoshi Nishimura said the move would strengthen economic ties between the U.K. and Japan, as well as making the zone covered by the deal equal to the EU in terms of economic size.

UK Looks to Seal Australia Trade Deal After G7

UK international trade secretary Liz Truss said that the UK's plans would be presented to parliament before the formal start of negotiations.

Japan Likely to Defend Taiwan if Beijing Makes Moves, Former US National Security Official Matt Pottinger Says

Tokyo would step up militarily to defend Taiwan if Beijing moved to reunify the island with mainland China by force, former deputy national security adviser

Matt Pottinger said in a panel discussion on Tuesday with other top Trump administration officials.

DOJ Says President, USTR Had 'Discretionary' Power to Levy Lists 3, 4A Tariffs

The Court of International Trade should dismiss the HMTX-Jasco sample case in the massive Section 301 litigation because the companies can't establish that the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative exceeded its authority, the Department of Justice said in a June 1 motion.

Statement by Ambassador Katherine Tai on the President's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

The Budget includes the two historic plans the President has already put forward — the Americans Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan — and reinvests in education, research, public health, and other foundations of our country's strength.



TRADE AND TRANSPORT ATTORNEYS

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FTA NEWS



Foreign Trade Association Presents:

Customs Compliance For Import Personnel

2-Day Virtual Course
Compliance Summer Camp for Import Personnel

This is a 2-day course intended to cover the subjects and information needed by importer employees responsible for Customs and import compliance. These include internal controls, Customs broker selection and monitoring, bonds, powers of attorney, managing HTS classifications and assists, post entry claims and compliance issues. The class also covers participation in Customs initiatives, including Trusted Trader and ACE Portal.

Topics to be Covered:

- Establishing & utilizing internal controls
- Customs broker selection, powers of attorney & broker monitoring
- Types of entries, customs bonds, paying duty & handling liquidations
- Determining and declaring a Customs value for a company's transactions
- Classifying imported articles, saving and utilizing classification information
- Qualifying for the Customs Trusted Trader program
- Centers of Excellence & Expertise
- ACE Portal benefits
- Qualifying (or not) for duty free exemptions and free trade agreements
- Using TIBs, bonded warehouses, Foreign Trade Zones & drawback
- Dumping and Countervailing duties, 232 and 301 duties
- Dealing with import restrictions and other agency requirements
- Post entry actions - amendments, protests, claims, tenders and disclosures
- Record keeping requirements and complying with the rules
- Responding to Customs requests and actions
- Dealing with liquidated damages, penalties & audits



Instructor: Bruce Leeds, Attorney, Braumiller Law Group
Bruce has decades of experience in international trade law and has successfully served his clients in diverse capacities, from classification and due diligence, to TIB compliance and drawback. He has significant expertise with importing and exporting high tech products.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Cancellations must be received in writing by 5 pm Friday, July 7, 2021 to receive a refund or to avoid being charged. Payment for this event is not deductible as a contribution or gift under federal law, but is most likely deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense.



2-Day Virtual Course - Customs Compliance for Import Personnel

This is a 2-day course intended to cover the subjects and information needed by importer employees responsible for Customs and import compliance.

Pricing:

\$150 - Early Bird Registration

\$200 - Late Registration

**REGISTER
HERE**

Broker License Exam Course

This comprehensive course to prepare for the upcoming Customs Broker License Exam provides detailed review in areas such as:

- Customs Broker Regulations
- Entry Requirements
- Valuation of Imports
- Harmonized Tariff Classification
- Free Trade Agreements and Other Duty-Free Exemptions
- Fines and Penalties
- Various other topics typically covered on the exam
- Exam-Taking Techniques

Pricing:

Member: \$445.00

Partner: \$500.00

Non-Member: \$550.00

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HERE**



11 WEEK EXAM PREP COURSE
Monday evenings 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Starts: Jul. 19, 2021
Ends: Sep. 27, 2021
*No class on Monday, Sep. 6, 2021. Class will take place on Tuesday, Sep. 7, 2021.

Credits:
20 CCS provided by NCBFAA

Cost:
Member Price \$445
Non Member Price: \$550
Partner Price: \$500

Note: Note: Course materials are not included in the registration fee.

Location: Virtual classes will be held for now.



5216 E. Pacific Coast Hwy #407
Long Beach, CA 90803
P. 888-223-6459

FOREIGN TRADE ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
Customs Brokers License Examination Course

This comprehensive course to prepare for the upcoming Customs Broker License Exam provides detailed review in areas such as:

- Customs Broker Regulations
- Entry Requirements
- Valuation of Imports
- Harmonized Tariff Classification
- Free Trade Agreements and Other Duty-Free Exemptions
- Fines and Penalties
- Various other topics typically covered on the exam
- Exam-Taking Techniques

In addition to being well-prepared for the exam, the course will also assist in developing a better understanding of critical areas of Customs Compliance even for people not planning on taking the brokers exam. The knowledge you receive will assist in enhancing skills for career advancement. If you already possess a broker's license, this is an excellent review course. Certified Customs Specialists completing the course will receive 20 CCS credits from the NCBFAA.

The course is recommended for individuals with some experience in customs brokerage or import operations. If in doubt about your level of experience, please call the instructor, Erik Smithweiss, at 213-624-1970.

INSTRUCTORS:
Erik Smithweiss & Tony Piscitelli

Erik Smithweiss is a partner with Grunfeld, Desiderio, Lebowitz, Silverman & Klestadt. Erik has over 20 years experience in the field of customs law and procedure and has taught customs broker exam preparation courses for over ten years.

Tony Piscitelli is the owner of TP CBP Importing Compliance, which offers consulting and training services. Tony was a Compliance Specialist with Expeditors International for 11 years as well as a 32-year career with U.S. Customs and Border Protection in NY and Los Angeles. Tony has taught customs broker exam preparation courses for over 6 years.

Course Material
CBP has announced the next exam date of October 21, 2021 and has published the exam notice listing the required HTS and 19 CFR, which the students will be required to purchase.

Reference Materials:
Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS), Basic Edition 2020
Title 19 Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR), April 1, 2020, Parts 1 - 199.
7501 Instructions, December 2019
ACE Entry Summary, Version 10.00, Sections 1 - 12 only, March 2020
Right To Make Entry Directive 3530-002A

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Environmental

Port of Long Beach Incentivizes Carriers to Deploy 'Greenest' Ships

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners earlier this month approved changes to the port's Green Ship Incentive Program, launched in 2012, that incorporate the international Environmental Ship Index (ESI). The ESI is a voluntary system that identifies seagoing ships exceeding the current emission standards of the International Maritime Organization.

Dominion Energy Reaches Deal on Charter of First Jones Act-Compliant Wind Turbine Installation Vessel

The vessel, named Charybdis, will be used to install Ørsted-Eversource's Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind, two of the nation's first large-scale offshore wind farms subject to regulatory approval.

Houseboats Removed from Lake Oroville as Water Levels Drop Due to Drought (PHOTOS)

As of Wednesday, Lake Oroville was at 38% of capacity and 45% of the average early June water level. As water levels fall, the houseboats were at risk of getting stuck or sustaining damage. Many of the houseboats now sit in parking lots next to the lake.

Carbon Neutrality Goal: China is Leading Global Surge in Green Bond Financing This Year

Through May 27, China accounted for 13.4 per cent of all green bonds issued globally, raising US\$26.1 billion, according to data provider Refinitiv.

Biden Administration Supports Oil, Mining Projects Backed by Trump

Biden administration lawyers are defending oil and mining projects approved under the Trump administration, benefiting ConocoPhillips, Rio Tinto PLC, BHP Group Ltd. and others at the expense of environmental and tribal groups challenging the projects.

X-Press Pearl Partially Sinks Off Colombo – PHOTOS

The X-Press Pearl was loaded with 1,486 containers, including 25 tons of Nitric Acid and other chemicals. Sri Lankan officials fear the sinking of the vessel would impact local fisheries and create an environmental disaster along the shoreline. The government on Wednesday suspended fishing along a 50-mile stretch of the island's coastline, affecting 5,600 fishing boats.

Maersk Calls for Carbon Tax on Ship Fuel

A.P. Moller-Maersk A/S says such a levy would help bridge the price gap between fossil fuels that vessels consume today and greener alternatives that are currently much more expensive. Fuel costs would effectively almost double if the measure were imposed today because of how carbon dioxide emissions are counted.

CO2 Emissions from Coal Shipping Steady in 2020 as Green Pressures Grow

Research published on Wednesday by independent climate think tank Ember showed seaborne coal exports were estimated to account for 3.1 billion tons of CO2 produced in 2020, or some 10% of total energy-related CO2 emissions last year.

COCA-COLA Becomes First Global Implementation Partner to Help Accelerate Cleanup

Ocean plastic pollution has become a global crisis, and, as rivers are the arteries that carry plastic from land to sea – 1000 are responsible for nearly 80% of riverine plastic emitting into our oceans – this issue intensifies every day.



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.

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IDEA**



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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.

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Maritime

Container Ship Scores ‘Off the Charts,’; ‘Fantasy’ Charter Rate: \$135,000/day

In a sign of just how frenzied the container market has become, a freight forwarder is reportedly paying \$135,000 per day for a short-term charter of the S Santiago, a 15-year-old container ship with a capacity of 5,060 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

Your Climate Change Goals May Have a Maritime Shipping Problem

Maritime shipping is one of the few sectors left out of the language of the Paris Agreement on climate change. The industry currently accounts for a relatively small share of global CO2 emissions — between 2% and 3% according to S&P Global Platts Analytics — but some scientists have projected that maritime shipping could account for 17% of total annual CO2 emissions by 2050.

OFAC’s Sanctions Advisory is Changing the Maritime Industry for Good

The guidance was the first to target the wider maritime industry, and it sought to make clear that the onus of responsibility for sanctions compliance lies with everyone across the supply chain, and stressed the need for the private sector to plug the many holes currently used to circumvent sanctions. The advisory became instantly pivotal for all those with exposure to maritime trade.

Biden Budget Pumps \$84 Million into Virginia Port Deepening

The project funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was part of President Joe Biden’s 2022 budget proposal released on Friday. The \$350 million project will deepen the port’s channels to 55 feet and widen the channels to allow two-way traffic for ultra-large container ships and would make the Port of Virginia the deepest port on the U.S. East Coast.

FMC to Implement National Shipper Advisory Committee

The Committee was created as part of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (H.R. 6395) to “advise the Federal Maritime Commission on policies relating to the competitiveness, reliability, integrity, and fairness of the international ocean freight delivery system.”

Oakland Congestion Spurs Zim to Reroute Premium China Service to LA

Due to vessel delays in Oakland, Zim is suspending its premium trans-Pacific service until at least late July and is re-routing the service from Central



FIRMs Code: W517

Video of the Week

Hong Kong silently and privately marks Tiananmen Square

In 1997 when Great Britain returned Hong Kong to China, the terms of the deal were that Hong Kong remain a Special Access Region with separate rights and rules than mainland China. Today, the passage of a National Security Law and arrests of demonstrators, newspaper owners and Hong Kong legislators has seen the United States and the global trade community change export control rules and even done away with "Made in Hong Kong" marking designations because Hong Kong's autonomy no longer exists. This year, the usual observations of what happened in 1989 in Tiananmen Square which have drawn tens of thousands to public spaces in Hong Kong were empty - chilled by the arrest of a pro-democracy activist and noticeable police presence focused on sending a message of deterrence. The BBC has more.



Logistics and Trade

Air Cargo Capacity Recovers Slowly at 50% Below Pre-pandemic Levels

Between the pressures of capacity demand, global vaccine distribution and plummeting passenger travel, the air cargo industry has been through the wringer — and it's not quite over.

Today's Logistics Report: Desperately Seeking Stock; Merging Logistics Tech; Getting Suppliers Ready

Big retail chains say they are struggling to bring in enough products to sell amid surging demand from American consumers.

Blue Yonder Research Takes a Look at the 'New Normal' for Logistics

On the sustainability front, the research found that 57% of logistics intend to invest in more sustainable upstream operations—materials sourcing, suppliers, and manufacturing—in order to maximize supply chain sustainability.

Modernization of Cross Border Trade Event Returns to Laredo

Topics include Reliance Partners' investment in cross-border technology, captives and self-insurance, auto liability options for fleets with B-1 drivers, safety programs and comprehensive insurance programs for groups that specialize in cross-border trade.

Unique Logistics Books Dozens of Asia Cargo Jets for Peak Season

Large logistics providers have responded to the dearth of air cargo capacity during the coronavirus pandemic by leasing entire planeloads with crews to make sure they can meet customers' transport requirements.

Upcoming Events

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 10 - P.A.E.I. - Virtual Networking Event - 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM PT- Join us for a fun night of Trade Compliance Trivia & Networking - Register [here](#)

June 23 - CBFANC - Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) - 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM PT- New Procedures & Updates from the CPSC - Register [here](#)

June 29- July 1 – AAEL – 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 [here](#)

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, FL - Register [here](#)

Aug 5- 6 - 2 Day Virtual Course - Customs Compliance For Import Personnel - 9:00 AM - 12: 00 PM PT - This is a 2-day course intended to cover the subjects and information needed by importer employees responsible for Customs and import compliance - Register [here](#)

September 12-15 ICPA Fall Conference and Valuation Seminar -Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center, Grapevine, TX - Register [here](#)

October 14-17 – WESSCON 2021 – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM PT- WESSCON

offers one of the best opportunity to meet people in the global logistics industry – Register [here](#)

December 31 - Webinar -LACBFFA APHIS CORE Webinar (Recording + Presentation Materials) - 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM PT - This workshop provides an overview on how to prepare for the mandatory APHIS Core filing date on 03/15/2021. Available resources and how to obtain admissibility guidance from USDA. Disclaimer tips and APHIS Core message set filing review - Register [here](#)