



July 30, 2021 Volume 2, Nr. 30

Yesterday, the Customs Business Fairness Act of 2021 was introduced in the House of Representatives. You can read it [here](#). This bill is introduced with bipartisan support and is intended to make permanent the provision that duties collected and remitted to CBP not be eligible to be clawed back in a bankruptcy proceeding.

The PCC and its member associations will be seeking the help of their members to correspond with Representatives and Senators underscoring the importance of this bill. We will keep our FTA audience informed of next steps when the time comes.

Number of the Day:

56,930

Combined loaded container exports, in 20-foot-equivalent units, from the Washington State ports of Seattle and Tacoma in June, a 19.2% decline from the year before and the lowest level since August 2020.



FIRMs Code: W517

Upcoming FTA Advocacy Committee Meeting

Do you have import, export and other trade related issues about which you are concerned? FTA's Advocacy Committee is the place to raise those issues. Our next meeting is August 5, 2021 from 4PM - 5PM Pacific Time - Please click on the link below to join.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86986932640?pwd=eXFCZ3dXaHlsaUJLdDhscy8vVEh3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 869 8693 2640

Passcode: 863926

Dial by your location

- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

The agenda for this month's meeting is:

1. Current activities of the FMC related to port congestion - see <https://www.fmc.gov/fmc-hears-proposals-addressing-supply-chain-and-cruise-issues/> and <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-and-federal-maritime-commission-sign-memorandum-understanding-support>;
2. 21 CCF and what CBP is doing to modernize - [see attached memo from the NCBFAA](#); and
3. Other topics raised by attendees.

Government Actions and Trade

Heroic Act by Off-Duty Border Patrol Agent

At around 12:45 p.m., while on his way to work, off-duty Border Patrol agent Roy Rosas witnessed an attempted carjacking taking place. The victim of the crime, a local church pastor, was assaulted by a 24-year-old Westmorland man who attempted to take the victim's car.

CBP Says Steel, Aluminum Import License Information Causing Problems With Entries From FTZs

The inclusion of steel and aluminum import license information is causing ACE to reject Type 06 entries used for goods coming out of foreign trade zones and into U.S. commerce, CBP said in a July 29 CSMS message.

US-China Relations: Beijing Lays Down Red Lines for First Time in Sherman Meeting

China has for the first time given the US a list of red lines and remedial action it must take to repair relations, including lifting sanctions and dropping its extradition request for Huawei financial chief Meng Wanzhou.

House Democrats Want Stronger Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Approach Than Senate's

The House is not clamoring to take up the Senate-passed Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act, as Democrats weigh the fact that aligning with the Senate may mean a bill becomes law sooner, with their view that the House approach is stronger.

BMW Chases China Car Smugglers Across Canada, Their Trail Strewn with Fake Documents, Bogus Bank Accounts

A series of court petitions reveal BMW's battle against buyers whose cars are immediately sent to Vancouver for export, their leases and loans unpaid

Clothing Companies, Former CEO Settle False Claims Case Over False Invoices

Stargate Apparel, Rivstar Apparel and their former owner and CEO, Joseph Bailey, settled a False Claims Act case with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York over the companies' use of inaccurate invoices to underreport their clothing imports, the Department of Justice said July 28.

'Industrial Policy' Is Back: The West Dusts Off Old Idea to Counter China

The U.S. and its allies have long pressed China to stop helping favored industries with subsidies, government preferences and other interventions.

USMCA Transition Has Been Difficult for Some in Auto Sector

The shift from NAFTA to USMCA has been taxing for vehicle manufacturing sector companies, panelists on a KPMG seminar said about the trade deal, one year in. But for Georgia-Pacific, compliance is simpler after the rewrite.

Outspoken Chinese Tycoon Sun Dawu Jailed for 18 years

The outspoken Chinese tycoon Sun Dawu was sentenced to 18 years in jail on Wednesday on charges ranging from provoking trouble to illegal fundraising.



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ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

WELCOMES NEW PARTNER

Jay A. Acayan

ADMITTED IN TEXAS

ROBERTS & KEHAGIARAS LLP
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Suite 660
Long Beach, CA 90802
(310) 642-9800

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West Suite 500
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FTA NEWS

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:



Location:
Zoom Webinar
Date:
Thursday, August 5, 2021
Friday, August 6 2021

Program:
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM PDT
Credits:
6 CES Credits

Costs:
\$150 Early Registration
\$200 Late Registration



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 IAP compliance and drawback, he has significant expertise with importing and exporting high tech products.

FTAA

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.



FTA's Fall 2021 Customs 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

REGISTER
HERE

\$150 - Early Bird Registration

\$200 - Late Registration

REGISTER
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.



100 W. Broadway, Suite 660
Long Beach, CA 90802
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 yet to announce the next exam date in October 2021.

Reference materials and an amended flyer will be issued when CBP publishes the exam notice listing the required HTS and 19 CFR, which the students will be required to purchase.

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Environmental

Coffee Prices Jump to Six-Year High as Brazilian Frost Threatens Crop

The cold snap is the second weather shock in recent months to strike farmers in Brazil, the world's biggest coffee producer, threatening to drive up costs at cafes and breakfast tables around the world.

Hyundai to Deploy Hydrogen-Fuel-Cell Trucks in California

The demo trucks will be based on Hyundai's Xcient Fuel Cell truck, which the company claims is the world's first mass-produced, heavy-duty truck powered by hydrogen — including the Euro-style cabover configuration.

Helping the Maritime Industry Spot Wildlife Crimes

The wildlife trafficking industry is taking advantage of the weaknesses in maritime supply chains to illegally smuggle animals, plants, and products. With an estimated that 72% to 90% of wildlife products trafficked by sea, new guidelines aim to assist the industry with this issue.



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**



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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.

Donn Yamada, Manubank

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Ever Given Arrives in Rotterdam, Ending Suez Canal Saga

The vessel arrived at the ECT Delta terminal at Rotterdam early Thursday and will be in port until Tuesday. Her Hamburg-bound cargo will be discharged at the pier and transshipped aboard the Ever Utile, arriving Hamburg August 2.

Cargo Ship Gets Kicked Out of U.S. Waters After Discovery of Invasive Insects

An initial inspection of the vessel raised some red flags after it was discovered that the wood used to secure a previous cargo of aluminum, known as “dunnage”, was left scattered on the deck, rather than offloaded in Mexico.

Robust Cybersecurity Solutions for Maritime Transportation

One of the most common targets in the transportation sector is the maritime industry, which contributes to a quarter of the United States’ gross domestic product (GDP) as reported by the White House National Maritime Cybersecurity Plan.

Containership Owners Still Striking Gold in Carrier Rush to Secure Charters

With the exception of a few containership owners that are enjoying eye-watering short-term charters, most non-operating owners have chosen to fix their ships on lengthy periods with ocean carriers at highly elevated daily hire rates.

Schedule Reliability at Low Level with No Improvement Forecast

Despite the efforts of the carriers and ports, many believe that performance and the issues confronting the container shipping sector are unlikely to improve for months or even years.

Thailand Mulls Launch of National Liner Operator to Tackle Soaring Freight Rates

The national shipping line will enhance infrastructure utilization for the government’s Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) and southern land bridge, which are expected to be completed in 2025 and 2027, respectively.

Florida Man in Bubble-like Vessel Washes up on Beach, Sheriff Says

A Florida man washed ashore inside a bubble-like vessel on Saturday morning after an apparent attempt to walk on water.



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

US / China Hold Talks in Tianjin

This week, Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman and a delegation met in Tianjin with representatives of China's Foreign Ministry, the second face-to-face meeting between US and Chinese diplomats since President Biden took office. Bloomberg's Quicktake: Explained gives us a rundown on how it went. TL;DNR, "Relations are at a stalemate."



Logistics and Trade

UPS Ships Fewer Packages as Pandemic Boom Wanes

United Parcel Service Inc. posted a 14.5% increase in second-quarter sales despite shipping fewer packages than it did a year earlier, as higher shipping rates offset a package slowdown with more shoppers venturing to stores.

FMC Issues Recommendations to Address Supply Chain, Port Issues

The recommendations, which resulted from Commissioner Rebecca Dye's fact-finding mission that began in March 2020, aim to minimize barriers to Shipping Act enforcement and better allow the FMC to "facilitate prompt and fair dispute resolution," Dye said July 28.

UPS Ships Fewer Packages as Pandemic Boom Wanes

Average daily shipping volume fell 0.8% globally and 2.9% in the U.S. compared with a year ago, when widespread lockdowns kept shoppers at home and shifted purchases of everything from toilet paper to toothpaste online.

Albertsons Prepares for Potential Covid-19 Restrictions

CEO says grocer is studying mask and vaccine mandates as Delta variant

boosts Covid-19 cases

FMC Presented with Interim Recommendations to Address Supply Chain Issues

The Federal Maritime Commission ordered Fact-Finding No. 29 back in March 2020 to investigate congestion and bottlenecks at ports and other points in the supply chain that posed a serious risk to the U.S. economy.

U.S. Import Surge Overwhelms Warehouse Space Near Ports

Surging demand for warehousing close to major ports driven by the growth of e-commerce and the flood of container imports hitting U.S. shores is making storage space harder to find and more expensive, adding new stresses to already strained supply chains.

Airlines Struggle With Fuel Shortages at Some Smaller Western U.S. Airports

Many carriers during the pandemic added flights to destinations that became popular among travelers looking to avoid congested cities. But getting enough fuel to some of those airports has grown harder in recent weeks due to a dearth of truck drivers and insufficient space on pipelines, airline officials have said.

Upcoming Events

Aug 4 - LACBFFA HTS Classification Workshop 2021 - 10: 00 Am - 12:00 PM PT - Learn or review how to use the USHTS as a tool for classification and duty estimation. We will cover the General Rules of Interpretation, General notes, Chapter notes and headings - 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](#)

Aug 10 - ACE Reports for Export - 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PT - We will look at ACE Reports and show how you can use them to monitor your AES filing and export compliance activities - Register [here](#)

Aug 11-12- BIS Encryption Controls Virtual Seminar - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM PT - The Encryption Controls Virtual Seminar is an in-depth seminar that will focus on the unique provisions related to encryption under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) - Register [here](#)

Aug 12 - LACBFFA - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PT -Buying DDP – Understanding and Managing the Compliance Risks - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM PT - Problems can arise with the IOR's "right to make entry" or the admissibility of goods. DDP buyers can also be liable for penalties and duties in certain situations under 19 USC 1592 and the False Claims Act, even though they were not the importer of record. This webinar will identify the risks and ways to mitigate them - Register [here](#)

Aug 12 - LAACA - Summer Mixer - 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM - La Traviatta Restaurant, Long Beach, CA - Come join us for this our 1st LIVE event and enjoy a sit down fantastic host served Italian Family Style dinner and a night of

comradery and networking, at La Traviata Restaurant in Long Beach - Register [here](#)

Aug 29 - WIT-LA - WIT-LA Port-to-Port Conversation - 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM PT - Trade representatives from Consulates General and Trade Offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco will join us to provide a summary update on international trade relations with the U.S. and present their perspectives for opportunities for U.S. businesses in a panel discussion followed by Q&A - Register [here](#)

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

September 14 - PAEI Webinar: Overview of International Trade & Export Control Developments in Asia Pacific Region -6:00 PM - 7:30 PM PT - Join us for this interactive “webinar” with our industry experts on an overview of international trade and export control developments in the Asia Pacific region and implications for global supply chains - Register [here](#)

September 19-21 NCBFAA Government Affairs Conference - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM PT - Grand Hyatt, Washington, D.C. - 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](#)