



ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CALENDAR

March 22, 2010

The **Illinois International Business Calendar** is a collaborative effort among the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago (ITA/GC), the Office of Trade and Investment of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), and the Illinois District Export Council (IDEC), on behalf of the U.S. Export Assistance Center Chicago (USEAC). The **Calendar** is also available on the ITA/GC's website: www.itagc.org.

Inclusion Policy: As a public service to the international business community, we publish a listing of **international business events** for which we receive **written** notification, preferably by e-mail (info@itagc.org) or fax (773/725-2294). Any organization may submit events that would be of interest to, **and are open to** the Illinois international business community. There is no charge. All calendar listings are subject to the editor's discretion. Inclusion of an event does not imply endorsement by any of the sponsoring organizations.

New events, and events with additional/revised information, are indicated in Green.

- Mar. 22 ***STRATEGIES FOR EHEALTH IN SWEDEN AND THE UNITED STATES***. Event sponsored by the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce/Chicago and Swedish Covenant Hospital. Speakers include: **Claes Hammar**, Minister for Trade and Economic Affairs, Embassy of Sweden, Washington, D.C.; **Dr. Derek Kelly**, Vice President, Medical Management and Chief Medical Officer, Swedish Covenant Hospital; **Pelle Svensson**, President, connectBlue, Inc.; **Johanna Wollert Melin**, CEO and **Martin Westin**, CTO, Great Connection. 5:30 p.m., Swedish Covenant Hospital, 5145 North California Avenue, Chicago. SACC Members - \$20; Non-members - \$24. Advance registration required by March 19. For information & registration, please e-mail: sacc@sacc-chicago.org, or agneta.rosenberg@interimventures.com.
- Mar. 23 ***EXPORT DOCUMENTATION***. Seminar sponsored by the International Trade Center, Kaskaskia College. Program covers all aspects of exporting and documentation requirements. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Hilton Garden Inn, 1501 South Neil Street, Champaign, IL. Fee: \$45. For information & registration, please call Francis Smith at 618/545-3429 or e-mail: fsmith@kaskaskia.edu.
- Mar. 23 ***LEARN THE BASICS OF EXPORTING***. Seminar sponsored by the Illinois International Trade Center, College of DuPage. Presentation by **Luanne Mayorga**, Manager, Illinois International Trade Center, College of DuPage. 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., College of DuPage Lisle Campus, 2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 201, Lisle, IL. Fee: \$40. For information & registration, please call 630/942-2600, or e-mail: mayorga@cod.edu.
- Mar. 23 ***ISRAEL'S MEDICAL DEVICE MARKET OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. COMPANIES***. Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service. Hear from regulators and key players in the medical device distribution sector on the following topics: *Market Size and Key Characteristics of the Dynamic Israeli Market; Overview of the Regulatory and Reimbursement Systems; Insider Tips on Accessing the Distribution System*. 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$50. For information & registration, please see: <https://emenuapps.ita.doc.gov/ePublic/newWebinarRegistration.jsp?SmartCode=0Q4B>.

- Mar. 23 ***FACILITATING EXPORT SUCCESS: INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENTS.*** Second in a series of four webinars (February 9, April 20, May 18) sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Baker & McKenzie LLP. Presentations by **Joyce Smith** and **Lothar Determann**, Baker & McKenzie. 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$75 (\$225 for the series). For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/ict/webinarseries.html.
- Mar. 23 ***INTERNATIONAL MARKETING.*** Seminar sponsored by the Illinois International Trade Center, College of DuPage. Presentation by **Luanne Mayorga**, Manager, Illinois International Trade Center, College of DuPage. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., College of DuPage Lisle Campus, 2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 201, Lisle, IL. Fee: \$40. For information & registration, please call 630/942-2600, or e-mail: mayorga@cod.edu.
- Mar. 23 ***ENERGY AND TRANSATLANTIC BUSINESS: ANY LESSONS TO LEARN FROM GERMAN EMISSION TRADING, FEED-IN TARIFFS AND OTHER CARBON REDUCTION INITIATIVES?*** Presentation and networking reception sponsored by the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest, Wisconsin Chapter. Presentation by **Dr. Matthias Lang**, Founding Partner, ARQIS Rechtsanwalte, Düsseldorf. 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Milwaukee School of Engineering, Grohmann Museum, 1000 North Broadway, Milwaukee. No charge; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: [www.gaccomm.org/en/no_cache/events-photos/singleview/index.html?tx_mjseventpro_pi1\[showUid\]=313](http://www.gaccomm.org/en/no_cache/events-photos/singleview/index.html?tx_mjseventpro_pi1[showUid]=313).
- Mar. 24 - ***INDIAN DELEGATION VISITS CHICAGO: CHEMICALS & PETRO CHEMICALS.*** Mr. **Bijoy Chatterjee**, Secretary in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, New Delhi, is visiting Chicago with a 10-member delegation comprised of senior Government of India officials dealing in Petro Chemicals. Also, representatives of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat will be present. The delegation would like to meet with representatives of Chemical and Petro Chemical companies to discuss promoting business relations. To schedule a meeting, please contact Suresh K. Menon at: cci@indianconsulate.com.
- Mar. 24 ***EXPORT DOCUMENTATION.*** Seminar sponsored by the International Trade Center, Kaskaskia College. Program covers all aspects of exporting and documentation requirements. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Kaskaskia College Greenville Education Center, 209 North 3rd Street, Greenville, IL. Fee: \$45. For information & registration, please call Francis Smith at 618/545-3429 or e-mail: fsmith@kaskaskia.edu.
- Mar. 24 - ***CHINESE FOR TRAVELERS.*** Webinar sponsored by the Chicago Chinese Cultural Institute. Eight-week conversational Chinese class taught online through WebEx. Wednesdays, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Fee: \$200. For information & registration, please see: www.chicagocci.com or e-mail: info@chicagocci.com.
- Mar. 25 ***LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS – SECURITY OPPORTUNITIES.*** Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service Safety & Security Team in collaboration with the UK Olympic Security Directorate, the British Security Industry Association, and Think London. Topics include: *Introduction & Overview of 2012 Business Opportunities and the Procurement Process; Security Opportunities at the London 2012 Games & Beyond; A U.S. Perspective on the London 2012 Business Opportunity.* 11:00 a.m. CDT. No charge. For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/colorado/security2012.html.
- Mar. 25 ***GLOBAL FINANCE TOOLS TO MINIMIZE RISK.*** Seminar and networking reception sponsored by the International Trade Club of Chicago. Topics include *Credit Insurance and Factoring*, and *Credit & Collections in the Far East*. Speakers include: **Steven Gan**, President, Stellar Risk Management Services, Inc.; **Jennie Cullen**, President, Global Asset Connection; **Ric Frantz**, CEO, LR International, Inc. 2:30 – 7:30 p.m., DePaul University, Board Room 1601, 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. ITCC Members - \$25; Non-members - \$45. For information & registration, please see: www.itcc.org.

- Mar. 25 ***CORPORATE AND COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE.*** Dinner meeting sponsored by the StateLine World Trade Association. Presentation by **Dr. Chris Kuehl**, Co-founder and Managing Director, Armada Corporate Intelligence. 5:30 p.m., The Beloit Inn, 500 Pleasant Street, Beloit, WI. SLWTA Members - \$25; Non-members - \$30; Students - \$15. Advance registration required by March 23. For information & registration, please see: www.slwta.org, or call 608/365-8835.
- Mar. 26 ***ADVANCED HTSUS CLASSIFICATION AND RULING REQUEST STRATEGIES.*** Import workshop sponsored by the International Trade Club of Chicago. Presentation by **David G. Forgue**, Barnes, Richardson & Colburn, Chicago. Topics include: *Effective Use of GRI 1; Sets under the Tariff; Parts of General Use; Meaning of Explanatory Notes; Interpreting Rulings; Effective Ruling Requests.* 8:00 – 11:00 a.m., American Management Association, 8655 West Higgins Road, Chicago. ITCC Members - \$65; Non-members - \$85. For information & registration, please see: www.itcc.org, or e-mail: itcc@barnesrichardson.com.
- Mar. 26 - ***THE WORLD ECONOMY: TO THE BRINK AND BACK.*** Fortieth Annual Central Illinois World
27 Affairs Conference sponsored by the Peoria Area World Affairs Council. Topics include: *The Pentagon's New Map: U.S. Foreign Policy and the World Economy; Crime, Corruption, and Drug Trafficking: The Impact of Transnational Threats on the Global Economy; Protectionism and Recovery in the World Economy; The European Union's Response to the Global Economic Crisis; The Future of the Global Economy.* Par-A-Dice Hotel and Conference Center, East Peoria, IL. Fees: vary. For information & registration, please call 309/677-2454, or see: <http://artstix.artspartners.net/eventperformances.asp?evt=135>.
- Mar. 30 ***INNOVATION IN FRANCE: BUSINESS & RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES WITH LYON URBAN TRUCK & BUS CLUSTER.*** Event sponsored by the French-American Chamber of Commerce of Chicago. Presentations by: **Bernard Favre**, Director of Lyon Urban Truck & Bus Research Program on Transport Systems, and Director of Research, Renault Trucks; **Frederic Miribel**, Cleantech Specialist, Lyon Economic Development Agency; **Jean-Pierre Novak**, Vice President of Midwest and Texas Operations, Invest in France Agency. 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., Union League Club of Chicago, 65 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. FACC Members – no charge; Non-members - \$20. Advance registration required by March 26. For information & registration, please see: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e2sfu2ct77c3c808>.
- Mar. 31 ***EXPORTING MADE EASIER: HOW CAN CREDIT AVAILABILITY BOOST SALES FOR YOUR COMPANY? LEARN HOW THE U.S. EXPORT-IMPORT BANK AND THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CAN HELP YOU OFFER ATTRACTIVE FINANCING FOR YOUR INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS.*** Last of six webinars sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service St. Louis and PNC. Learn how export credit insurance can be used as a marketing tool for export sales and how to use credit insurance in your export marketing strategy. 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. CST. Fee: \$40. For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/stlouis/events.html.
- Apr. 1 ***INCORPORATING INCOTERMS – WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT?*** Webinar sponsored by Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A. Learn about transferring title & risk. Presentation by **Donna Bade**, Manager, STR Chicago. 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. CDT. Fee; \$100. For information & registration, please see: www.strtrade.com.
- Apr. 5 ***ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESS EXPORT PROMOTION FORUM.*** Event hosted by Illinois Senator **Richard J. Durbin**. This Forum will highlight the benefits of exporting for small and medium-sized businesses in Illinois to support job retention and growth. Topics include: *Identifying Target Markets and Business Partners; Trade Finance; Export Credit Insurance; Export Working Capital Loans; Exporter Success Stories.* Speakers include: **Karen Mills**, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration; **Ron Kirk**, U.S. Trade Representative; **Fred Hochberg**, Chairman, Export-Import Bank of the U.S.; **Gary Locke**, Secretary of Commerce. 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., University of Chicago Gleacher Center, 450 North City Front Plaza Drive, Chicago. No charge; advance registration required. For information, please call 312/353-4952; for registration, please e-mail: registration@durbin.senate.gov.

- Apr. 6 ***ARGENTINA: BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA.*** Luncheon program sponsored by Niagara Foundation. Presentation by **Gustavo Martino**, Consul General of Argentina in Chicago. 12:00 p.m., 205 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2540, Chicago. No charge; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: www.niagarafoundation.org/niagara/rsvp.php.
- Apr. 7 ***THE ENDURING U.S.-U.K. PARTNERSHIP.*** Luncheon program sponsored by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Presentation by **The Honorable Louis B. Susman**, United States Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – Court of St. James. 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m., The Chicago Club, 81 East Van Buren Street, Chicago. CCGA Members - \$50; Non-members - \$60. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2205.
- Apr. 7 ***INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION ISN'T JUST FOR MUSICIANS ANYMORE.*** Executive Forum sponsored by the Midwest Global Trade Association. Presentation by **John M. Peterson**, Attorney, Neville Peterson LLP. 2:30 – 6:00 p.m., Sofitel Minneapolis, 5601 West 78th Street, Bloomington, MN. MGTA Members - \$30; Non-members - \$40. For information & registration, please see: <http://mgta.org/cde.cfm?event=292040>.
- Apr. 8 ***INTRODUCTION TO ITAR (INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN ARMS REGULATIONS).*** Program, sponsored by Allocca Enterprises, Inc., in cooperation with the U.S. Commercial Service – Rockford, will help you understand what ITAR is and how it may govern your defense-related exports. Presentation by **Robert P. Imbriani**, Vice President of Corporate Development, Team Worldwide. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., EIGERlab, 605 Fulton Avenue, Rockford, IL. Fee: \$425 by March 31; \$475 thereafter. For information & registration, call Patrick Hope at 815/316-2380; e-mail: patrick.hope@mail.doc.gov; or see: www.alloccaenterprises.com.
- Apr. 10 ***CINEMA SUBTITLES AND DUBBING: OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISCOMMUNICATION.*** Panel discussion sponsored by the Chicago Area Translators and Interpreters Association. Discussion of issues related to translating for film, including the challenges to translate humor. Panelists from Lake Forest College include: **Cynthia Hahn**, Professor of French; **David George**, Professor of Spanish; **Patricia Scarampi**, Assistant Professor of French and Spanish. 2:30 – 5:00 p.m., Lake Forest College, Hotchkiss Hall, Middle Campus, 555 North Sheridan Road, Lake Forest, IL. No charge; no rsvp required. For information, please see: www.chicata.org.
- Apr. 11 - 16 ***GREEN INDUSTRIES TRADE MISSION TO EUROPE.*** FedEx and the U.S. Commercial Service are collaborating to help U.S. businesses expand internationally in this thriving market. The mission is designed to help delegates: assess the business climate in selected European countries; become better informed on market-entry strategies and EU Product Certification and Standards; identify potential business partners through private one-on-one meetings with prescreened candidates; engage with industry and government leaders in Europe. Fee: \$1,500. For information, please see: www.fedex.com/international/uscs/greentmmain.html.
- Apr. 12 - 16 ***ILLINOIS TRADE MISSION TO EXPOMIN 2010, SANTIAGO, CHILE.*** The Office of Trade & Investment (OTI) of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity is leading a trade mission to EXPOMIN 2010, the world's most prestigious trade show for the mining industry. The Illinois mission will consist of six Illinois export-ready companies in the fields of: mining; drilling; mining equipment; mineral processing; automation and control; environment and safety; foundries; fluid transport and handling; transport equipment; motors; lubricants. OTI will provide financial assistance to participating companies to pay for booth space, furniture, logistical support, translation of promotional materials, and interpreter services. Companies will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For further information, please call Enrico Doggett at 312/814-7295, or e-mail: enrico.doggett@illinois.gov.

- Apr. 12 - ***SIXTH ANNUAL BUSINESS MISSION TO MEXICO CITY.*** Led by the United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, this is one of very few business missions the Mexican government agrees to receive. The delegation will meet with high-level government officials and private business organizations to openly discuss the future of U.S.-Mexico relations and how the Mexican government can better assist companies doing business in Mexico. Fee: \$800. For information, please e-mail: blanca.berthier@usmccoc.org.
- Apr. 13 ***EXPORTING & IMPORTING: PROCEDURES, DOCUMENTATION & LAWS.*** Conference sponsored by the Global Conference Group and the International Trade Club of Chicago. Program will address: *Export Documentation & Procedures; Letters of Credit; Using the Harmonized Tariff Schedule; Air & Ocean Transportation; Logistics Management for the International Supply Chain; Import Documents & Procedures; Latest Changes in Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (UCP 600)*. Speakers include: **Ric Frantz**, Chief Executive Officer, LR International; **Thomas M. Keating**, Partner, Hodes Keating & Pilon; **Carter H. Klein**, Partner, Jenner & Block; **Ram T. Madaan**, Partner, Madaan & Co.; **Robin F. Mugford**, International Trade Specialist, U.S. Department of Commerce. 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Mid-America Club, 200 East Randolph Drive, Chicago. Fee: \$495 by March 15; \$595 thereafter. For information & registration, please see: www.globalconferencegroup.com/06export/export.html.
- Apr. 13 ***DOING BUSINESS WITH JAPAN: RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.*** Panel discussion sponsored by the Japan America Society of Chicago and Citibank. Topics and speakers include: *Risk Management Strategies for Doing International Business with Japan* – **Mary Roberts**, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Trade & Investment, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity; *Understanding International Risk* – **Peter Moirano**, Foreign Exchange Trade Specialist, Citibank; *Resources for Small to Medium Sized Enterprises to Grow Your Global Footprint* – **Carrie Zethmayr**, Manager of International Relations & Client Solutions, Rockford Area Economic Development Council; *How Japan Is Coping in a Global Recession & Financial Tools to Sell in this Economy Whether Exporting to or Importing from Japan (or anywhere)* – **Jennie Cullen**, President, Global Asset Connection. 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Citibank, 500 West Madison Street, 6th Floor conference room, Chicago. JASC Members - \$20; Non-members - \$30. For information & registration, please see: www.jaschicago.org/en/events/default.aspx?eventid=115.
- Apr. 14 - ***TRADE MISSION TO CHINA.*** Sponsored by U.S.-China Brand Group, this mission will visit Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Xiamen, Hangzhou, Shauxin, Wenzhou, Xian, and Beijing. It will provide U.S. companies/professionals great opportunities to introduce investment projects and financial returns to potential Chinese investors. Fee: \$5,800. For information & registration, please call Kevin Mao at 847/465-8995; e-mail: kevin@us-chinabrand.com; or see: www.us-chinabrand.com/index.php?q=market-opportunity.
- Apr. 14 ***BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE.*** Panel discussion sponsored by the American Southeast Europe Chamber of Commerce and Baker & McKenzie LLP, in partnership with: Office of Trade & Investment, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity; Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce; Serbian American Chamber of Commerce; International Business Club . Panelists include: **Arthur L. George**, Partner, Baker & McKenzie; **Mary Roberts**, Interim Managing Director, Office of Trade & Investment, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity; **Hon. Eldin Kajevic**, Consul General of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Chicago; **Hon. Renee Pea**, Acting Consul General of the Republic of Croatia in Chicago; **Hon. Jovica Palashevski**, Consul General of the Republic of Macedonia in Chicago; **Gabriel Dutu**, Consul for Economic Affairs, Consulate of Romania in Chicago; **Hon. Desko Nikitovic**, Consul General of Serbia in Chicago; **Suleyman Sozeri**, Commercial Attaché, Consulate of Turkey in Chicago. 2:30 – 6:00 p.m., Baker & McKenzie, 130 East Randolph Drive, 39th Floor, Chicago. Partner Members - \$15; Non-members - \$20 by March 24; \$25 thereafter. For information & registration, please see: www.amsecc.org.

- Apr. 14 ***HIS MAJESTY KING ABDULLAH II, KING OF THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN.*** Program sponsored by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. 5:15 – 7:15 p.m., The Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, 120 East Delaware Place, Chicago. CCGA Members - \$25; Non-members - \$45. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2209.
- Apr. 15 ***ASIA AFTER THE FINANCIAL CRISIS: A SINGAPORE PERSPECTIVE.*** Luncheon program sponsored by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Presentation by **His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong**, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore. 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., The Ritz-Carlton, 160 East Pearson Street, Chicago. CCGA Members - \$55; Non-members - \$65. Advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2204.
- Apr. 20 - ***FOOD AND HOTEL ASIA 2010 (SINGAPORE).*** The Office of Trade & Investment, Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, invites Illinois food equipment and technology companies to participate and/or display products/promotional materials free of charge. This is Asia's largest food and food equipment trade event with 2,800 international exhibitors from 70 countries and regions. Participation deadline is **March 15**. For further information, please contact Kitty Leung at: kittyl@illinoishongkong.org.hk.
- Apr. 20 ***GREEN BUILDING INNOVATION.*** Conference sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest. Speakers include: **Iris Behr**, Vice Managing Director, Institute for Housing and Environment – Research Institution of the State of Hesse and the City of Darmstadt (IWU); **Isabell Schäfer**, Energy Consultant, DGNB Auditor, Project Leader 2007 Solar Decathlon, University of Darmstadt; **Mark S. Taylor**, Manager, University of Illinois 2009 Solar Decathlon Team, School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; **Michael Vesper**, Executive Director, Yello Strom GmbH. A number of German green building companies will also make presentations. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 111 South Wacker Drive, 29th Floor, Chicago. No charge; advance registration required. For information & registration, please see: www.gacom.org/renewable-energy-programs/upcoming-events/green-building-innovation-delegation-and-conference/index.html.
- Apr. 20 ***FACILITATING EXPORT SUCCESS: FOREIGN INCORPORATIONS TO SUPPORT U.S. EXPORTS.*** Third in a series of four webinars (February 9, March 23, May 18) sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Baker & McKenzie LLP. Presentations by **Peter Denwood** and **Irina Shestakova**, Baker & McKenzie. 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$75 (\$225 for the series). For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/ict/webinarseries.html.
- Apr. 20 ***U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS IN 2010: MYTHS, REALITIES, AND DILEMMAS.*** Program sponsored by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies. Presentation by **Kenneth G. Lieberthal**, Director, John L. Thornton China Center and Senior Fellow, Foreign Policy and Global Economy and Development, The Brookings Institution. 5:30 – 7:15 p.m., The Chicago Club, 81 East Van Buren Street, Chicago. CCGA Members - \$20; Non-members - \$30. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2189.
- Apr. 21 - ***GO GLOBAL III – GPS (GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS = SUCCESS).*** Event sponsored by: Go Global/Rockford Area Economic Development Council; US Bank; RSM McGladrey; SupplyCore; Greater Rockford Airport Authority; and others. Topics include: *American Competitiveness, Jobs and Trade: How FTZs Can Help; Customs; Insurance & Bonds; Branding for Growth through Acquisitions; 10+2 Update; Global Economy: Negotiating a New Social Contract; Export Compliance & Import ISF; IPR Infringement; ITAR, Commercial & Defense; Foreign Exchange Hedging; International Aerospace Clusters; Growing Asian Markets; International Banking Basics; Import & Export Logistics; Marketing Strategies for Global Opportunities; Communicating across Cultures.* Clock Tower Resort & Conference Center, 7801 East State Street, Rockford, IL. Fee: \$125. For information & registration, please see: www.goglobalrockford.com/default.asp.

- Apr. 21 ***FOUR MONTHS AND COUNTING: ARE WE READY TO MEET THE 100% SCREENING MANDATE FOR CCSP?*** Luncheon program sponsored by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago in collaboration with the International Air Cargo Association of Chicago and the Chicago Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association. Presentations by **Brandon Fried**, Executive Director, Airforwarders Association, and **Arthur O'Meara**, Export Control Officer, Robert Bosch LLC. 11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Rosewood Restaurant, 9421 West Higgins Road, Rosemont, IL. Members of sponsoring organizations - \$35; Non-members - \$45. For information & registration, e-mail: rsvp@itagc.org, or call 773/725-1106.
- Apr. 22 ***DOING BUSINESS WITH INDIA: OPPORTUNITIES IN INVESTING, TRADE AND OUTSOURCING.*** Fifth national conference sponsored by the Global Conference Group. Topics include: *India at a Glance; Legal Aspects of Investing, Trade & Outsourcing with India; Tax Issues in India; Investing in Real Estate in India; How to Outsource to India?; Export-Import from India; Corporate Experiences in Doing Business in India: Practical Lessons Learned.* 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Mid-America Club, 200 East Randolph Drive, Chicago. Fee: \$495 by March 22; \$595 thereafter. For information & registration, please see: www.globalconferencegroup.com/06india/india.html.
- Apr. 22 ***FINDING EXPORT ASSISTANCE IN ILLINOIS: INTERNATIONAL MARKET RESEARCH TOOLS.*** Seminar sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the City of Litchfield. Presentation by **Silvia Torres**, Director, Illinois SBDC International Trade Center, SIUE. 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., City of Litchfield City Hall Building, 120 East Ryder Street, Litchfield, IL. No charge; advance registration required. For information & registration, please e-mail: international-trade-center@siue.edu, or call 217/324-8146.
- Apr. 23 ***IMPORT COMPLIANCE.*** Seminar sponsored by Law Office of Linardakis, P.C. Topics include: *Import Policies and Strategic Processes and Procedures; C-TPAT, ISA, "10+2" and Focus Assessment Audits; Classification, HTS, Valuation, and Rules of Origin; Leveraging NAFTA for other Free Trade Agreements and Regional Trade Agreements; Internal Review Audits of a Company's Import Processes.* 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Lewis University, 2122 York Road, Oak Brook, IL. Fee: \$110. For information & registration, please call 630/639-0866 or e-mail: linardakis@sbcglobal.net.
- Apr. 23 ***EXPORT COMPLIANCE.*** Seminar sponsored by Law Office of Linardakis, P.C. Topics include: *Export Policies and Procedures; Deemed Exports and Foreign National Issues; BIS, DoS and OFAC Regulations and Compliance; ECCN Classification; Export Restrictions & Embargoes; Export Administration Regulations.* 1:00 – 3:30 p.m., Lewis University, 2122 York Road, Oak Brook, IL. Fee: \$110. For information & registration, please call 630/639-0866 or e-mail: linardakis@sbcglobal.net.
- Apr. 23 ***A LUNCHEON WITH THE AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED STATES.*** Program **CANCELED** Chicago Council on Global Affairs; Underwriters Laboratories; Consulate General ~~Chicago~~ America Society of Chicago; University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies. Presentation by **His Excellency Ichiro Fujisaki**, Ambassador of Japan to the United States. 12:00 – 1:45 p.m., The Chicago Club, 81 East Van Buren Street, Chicago. Members of sponsoring organizations - \$45; Non-members - \$55. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2178.
- Apr. 26 ***GLOBAL TRADE: EXPORTING – GET THE BASICS FROM THE PROS.*** Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Service Core of Retired Executives (SBA/SCORE). Topics include: *Legal Issues, Finance and Banking; Freight Forwarding; Customs; U.S. Government Export Assistance Programs.* 8:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1150, Chicago. Fee: \$60 in advance; \$70 at the door. For information & registration, please see: <https://s07.123signup.com/servlet/SignUp?Info=&P=1522055191150390100&PG=1522055182300>.

- Apr. 26 ***BEYOND LISBON: THE FUTURE OF EUROPE.*** Program sponsored by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Presentation by **José María Aznar**, former Prime Minister of Spain. 5:30 – 7:15 p.m., The Chicago Club, 81 East Van Buren Street, Chicago. CCGA Members - \$20; Non-members - \$30. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2202.
- Apr. 27 ***IMMIGRATION DEMYSTIFIED.*** Seminar sponsored by BENNU Legal Services. Presentation, by **Andrew Sagartz**, Executive Director, BENNU Legal Services, will focus on the basics of immigration. 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., BENNU Legal Services, 28835 North Herky Drive, Suite 104, Lake Bluff, IL. No charge; advanced registration appreciated. For information & registration, please call Beth Parsons at 847/478-8200; e-mail: bparsons@bennulegal.org.
- Apr. 27 ***THE IMPORTANCE OF BUILDING INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY SKILLS.*** Program sponsored by the: Young Professionals of The Chicago Council on Global Affairs; International Visitors Center of Chicago; Committee on International Affairs for Public Policy; American-Southeast Europe Chamber of Commerce. Presentation by **Cari E. Guittard**, Executive Director, Business for Diplomatic Action. 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Baker & McKenzie, 130 East Randolph Street, Chicago. Members of sponsoring organizations - \$15; Non-members - \$20. For information & registration, please see: www.thechicagocouncil.org/chicago_council_event_corporate_detail.php?eventid=2183.
- Apr. 28 - ***U.S.-SAUDI BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FORUM.*** Event organized by the Committee for International Trade of the U.S.-Saudi Arabian Business Council in collaboration with the Saudi Ministry of Commerce and Industry, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This high-level gathering of senior officials and corporate leaders from Saudi Arabia and the United States is designed to increase understanding and business interchange between the two nations. Sessions will feature senior executives from U.S. companies currently engaged successfully in the Saudi market along with Saudi government and private sector experts in their fields. Specific and immediate business opportunities will be presented, offering profit-making potential for U.S. firms. Breakout topics include: *Energy; Finance and Investment; Information Technology; Water and Electricity; Petrochemicals and Plastics Manufacturing; Construction; Small and Medium Sized Enterprises; Agriculture.* Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago. Fee: \$150 before April 1; \$200 thereafter. For information & registration, please see: <http://us-saudiforum.com>.
- Apr. 28 ***EXPORT COMPLIANCE.*** Seminar sponsored by the Illinois SBDC International Trade Center, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in cooperation with LR International and Baker & McKenzie LLP. Presentations by: **Ric Frantz**, CEO, LR International, Inc.; **Bart McMillan**, Partner, Baker & McKenzie LLP; **Shari Stout**, U.S. Commercial Service Peoria. Topics include: *The Shipper's Export Declaration Filing via the Automated Export System; Export Administration Regulations; Census Foreign Trade Regulations; Legal Implications and Penalties; Controlled Commodities; The Export License Application Process; Best Practices on Creating an Effective Export Compliance Management System.* 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., MidAmerica St. Louis Airport, 9656 Air Terminal Drive, Mascoutah, IL. Fee: \$65. For information & registration, please e-mail: international-trade-center@siue.edu, or call 618/650-3851.
- Apr. 29 ***THE U.S. – JORDAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT & JORDAN'S SAFETY & SECURITY EQUIPMENT/SERVICES MARKET.*** Webinar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and the International Trade Center of Dallas. Topics & speakers include: *Best Prospects for U.S. Safety & Security Equipment & Services* – **Fareedon Hartoqa**, Commercial Specialist, U.S. Embassy – Amman; *U.S. – Jordan FTA Agreement, Certificate of Origin, Harmonized Codes* – **Meredith Bond**, Director, U.S. Commercial Service Omaha; *The Art of Doing Business in Jordan* – **Lorraine McCord**, Director, International Trade Center of Dallas; *Shipping & Documentation* – **Mohammed Obeidat**, Customs Officer, Jordan Customs Agency. 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. CDT. Fee: \$30. For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/jordan/en/.

- Apr. 29 ***GLOBAL REAL ESTATE: ARE YOU MAXIMIZING YOUR INBOUND INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE OPPORTUNITIES?*** Spring networking luncheon & panel discussion sponsored by the Chicago International Real Estate Council. Panelists include: **Sean J. Conlon**, Chairman, Conlon & Co.; **Jose H. Colon**, Senior Commercial Advisor, Jameson Real Estate; **Ann Trandai**, Commercial Real Estate & Investment, Trandai Realty; **Dr. James D. Shilling**, The Real Estate Center, DePaul University (moderator). 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Maggiano's, 516 North Clark Street, Chicago. CIREC Members - \$35; Non-members - \$45. For information & registration, please see: www.chicagorealtor.com/cde.cfm?event=305322.
- May 3 - ***FULLFILLING THE PROMISE: HEAL, FUEL, FEED THE WORLD.*** 2010 BIO International Convention sponsored by the Biotechnology Industry Organization. This is the largest global event for the biotechnology industry. It attracts the biggest names in biotech, offers key networking and partnering opportunities, and provides insights and inspiration on the major trends affecting the industry. The event features keynotes and sessions from key policymakers, scientists, CEOs, and celebrities. The Convention also features the BIO Business Forum (one-on-one partnering), hundreds of sessions covering biotech trends, policy issues and technological innovations, and the world's largest biotechnology exhibition. Presidents **Bill Clinton** and **George W. Bush** will discuss issues relating to both foreign and domestic policy, and other topics. McCormick Place, Chicago. Early bird registration ends **March 11**. Fees vary. For information & registration, please see: <http://convention.bio.org/register/>.
- May 5 - ***BANK STRUCTURE AND COMPETITION.*** 46th Annual Conference sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Keynote Speakers: **Ben S. Bernanke**, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; **Phil Gramm**, Vice Chairman, UBS Investment Bank and Former Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate; **Alan Greenspan**, President, Greenspan Associates LLC and Former Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Other speakers include: **Austan Goolsbee**, Member, President's Council of Economic Advisers and Chief Economist, President's Economic Recovery Advisory Board; **Rodrigo Rato**, Chairman, Caja Madrid Savings Bank and Former Spanish Economy Minister and Managing Director, International Monetary Fund; **Angela Maddaloni** and **José-Luis Peydró**, European Central Bank; **Kaspar Roszbach**, Sveriges Riksbank; **Cem Demiroğlu**, Koç University. InterContinental Hotel, 505 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Fee: \$450. For information & registration, please see: www.chicagofed.org/webpages/events/2010/bank_structure_conference.cfm.
- May 5 - ***STATE OF ILLINOIS TRADE MISSION TO IFAT CHINA + EPTEE + CWS 2010 (SHANGHAI).*** The Office of Trade & Investment (OTI) of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity is a leading a trade mission to the largest environmental expo in Asia covering the following sectors: Water & Sewage; Refuse Disposal & Recycling; Flue-gas Scrubbing and Air; Natural Energy Sources; Decontamination of Old Sites; Public Cleansing; Measurement, Control and Laboratory Technology; Services; Education & Research. The Illinois mission will consist of 6-8 companies in these sectors. OTI will provide assistance in matchmaking, logistical support, translation of promotional materials, and interpreter services. Companies will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For information, please call Zhigang Ren at 312/814-2335 or e-mail: zhigang.ren@illinois.gov.
- May 11 - ***AFRICA, NEAR EAST AND SOUTH ASIA (ANESA).*** Conference sponsored by the Minnesota District Export Council in collaboration with the Minneapolis Office of the U.S. Commercial Service. Event features Senior U.S. Commercial Officers from: Algeria, Ghana, India, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, United Arab Emirates. SCOs will be available for one-on-one meetings with participants. Radisson Plaza Hotel, 35 South Seventh Street, Minneapolis, MN. Fee: \$275. For information & registration, please see: <http://exportassistance.com>.

- May 16 - ***CLEAN ENERGY MISSION (HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, BEIJING, JAKARTA)***. First Obama
25 Administration Cabinet-level trade mission, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Led by Commerce Secretary **Gary Locke**, this mission will promote exports of leading U.S. green technologies to these potentially lucrative markets. Applications are being accepted from qualified U.S. companies that are: competitive in the energy sector; committed to a long-term role in Asia; already doing business in China and/or Indonesia, or are involved in major project procurement in these countries; interested in addressing common obstacles to trade in these markets. Application deadline: **March 12**. For information, please see: www.trade.gov/cleanenergymission, or e-mail: cleanenergymission@doc.gov.
- May 17 - ***THE SECRETS OF SUCCESSFUL TRADE FINANCING***. Two-day seminar sponsored by The
18 American Export Training Institute; co-sponsors include: Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.; Bank of America Merrill Lynch; Trade Technologies. Participants will learn how to: use financing tools such as letters of credit & government resources; offer competitive terms & yet receive payment upon shipment; protect balance sheets from the risks of international trade; and create win-win client relationships that increase international sales. 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 231 South LaSalle Street, 13th Floor Conference Room, Chicago. Fees vary (\$295-\$495). For information & registration, please see: www.exportrisk.com; e-mail: aeti@exportrisk.com; or call 860/435-0430.
- May 18 ***FACILITATING EXPORT SUCCESS: INTERNATIONAL LABOR, EMPLOYMENT, AND IMMIGRATION***. Last in a series of four webinars (February 9, March 23, April 20) sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service and Baker & McKenzie LLP. Presentations by **Susan Eandi, Ute Krudewagen** and **Matt Schulz**, Baker & McKenzie. 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT. Fee: \$75 (\$225 for the series). For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/ict/webinarseries.html.
- May 19 ***ILLINOIS EXPORT FINANCE SEMINAR***. Event sponsored by the: Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville; Greater Taylorville Chamber of Commerce; Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Kaskaskia College. Topics include: *Short-term Working Capital Loans for Exports; Export Credit Insurance Programs; International Payment Methods Most Commonly Used by Importers/Exporters*. Presentation by **Tess Morrison**, Director, Illinois SBDC International Trade Center, Kaskaskia College. 12:00 – 2:30 p.m., University of Illinois Extension – Auditorium, 1120 North Webster Street, Taylorville, IL. No charge; advance registration required. For information & registration, please e-mail fredgtcc@consolidated.net, or call 217/824-4919.
- May 22 - ***EXPERIENCE BRAZIL: SAMBA, SOCCER, AND SÃO PAULO***. Study trip to São Paulo sponsored
30 by the Global Business Studies Program at Oakton Community College. Explore Brazil from an international business perspective. Lectures and discussions with business leaders, government officials, and local organizations will enable participants to learn about business practices within Brazil and Latin America. Fee: \$3,700, includes: airfare and hotel; most meals; entrance fees; ground transportation. Registration deadline: **March 15**. For information & registration, please e-mail: lzingaro@oakton.edu.
- May 23 - ***FTZs – THE KEY TO EXPORTS***. 24th Spring Seminar sponsored by the National Association of
24 Foreign-Trade Zones. Westin Michigan Avenue Chicago, 909 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago. NAFTAZ Members - \$425 by April 23 (\$475 thereafter); Non-members - \$625 by April 23 (\$675 thereafter). For information & registration, please see: http://naftz.org/index_events.php/events/55.
- May 25 - ***AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT TRADE MISSION TO NIGERIA***. Event, sponsored by the U.S.
26 Commercial Service, will introduce U.S. companies to distributors, buyers, joint venture partners, business owners, and government officials. There will be pre-travel briefings, a networking reception, pre-screened meetings, and webinars on Nigeria. For further information, please e-mail: timothy.cannon@mail.doc.gov.

- June 5 - ***EXECUTIVE-LED TRADE MISSION TO SAUDI ARABIA (RIYADH & JEDDAH) AND QATAR (DOHA)***. Mission, led by the U.S. Department of Commerce, will focus on two important public health issues: patient healthcare and water & waste management. Rapidly-growing economies, strong ties with the U.S., and major public health needs put the Gulf Region among the world's most promising markets for U.S. suppliers. Application deadline: **March 31**. For further information, see: www.export.gov/mepublichealthmission/index.asp, or e-mail: mepublichealth@trade.gov.
- June 10 ***C-TPAT CERTIFICATION TRAINING***. Workshop, sponsored by The World Academy, offers an in depth analysis of the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism program that will provide current and immediate answers to the industries' most often asked questions pertaining to the program, application and validation process. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Chicago. Fee: \$595. For information & registration, see: www.theworldacademy.com/c-tpat%20certification2007.shtml.
- June 11 ***INCOTERMS AND RELATED GLOBAL TRADE ISSUES***. Class, sponsored by The World Academy, addresses the proper use of INCOTERMS relating to export and import transactions. 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Chicago. Fee: \$595. For information & registration, please see: www.theworldacademy.com/incoterms.shtml.
- June 22 ***AES COMPLIANCE: COMPLYING WITH THE FOREIGN TRADE REGULATIONS***. Seminar sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service Kansas City. The Census Bureau and port officers from U.S. Customs & Border Protection offer an engaging full-day program that includes: filing requirements of the FTR; how to classify your commodities by providing an understanding of the Schedule B classification requirements; a thorough overview of the Automated Export System; port requirements and efforts against terrorism and international narcotics trafficking. 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Johnson County Community College, Regnier Center, 12345 College Boulevard, Overland Park, KS. Fee: \$199. For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/kansascity/aesprogram.html.
- June 22 ***DRAWBACK***. Workshop sponsored by The World Academy. Topics include: *Manufacturing Drawback; Unused Merchandise Drawback; Rejected Merchandise Drawback; NAFTA Drawback; Preparing Drawback Documents; Processing of Drawback Claims; Commercial Interchangeability*. Presentations by **Brenda L. Sweetman**, Vice President, Compliance Consultants, and **Michael Kerlen**, Vice President, Comstock & Theakston, Inc. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Chicago. Fee: \$595. For information & registration, please see: www.theworldacademy.com/drawback.shtml.
- June 23 ***AES COMPLIANCE: CERTIFIED TRAINING ON AESPCLINK***. Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service Kansas City. Learn how to successfully file your Electronic Export Information via the Windows-based AESPCLink. Two sessions are offered: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Johnson County Community College, Regnier Center, 12345 College Boulevard, Overland Park, KS. Fee: \$60. For information & registration, please see: www.buyusa.gov/kansascity/aesprogram.html.
- June 26 - ***CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE TOTAL IMMERSION PROGRAM***. Trip to China organized by the Chicago Chinese Cultural Institute. This 15-day Chinese language and culture total immersion program features intensive language and cultural classes taught by experienced language teachers at the China Academy of Arts in Hangzhou. All levels of Chinese language proficiency are welcome. The trip also includes a visit to the Shanghai World Expo and guided tours of major attractions in Shanghai and Hangzhou. For further information, contact Z.J. Tong at 312/842-1988; e-mail: tong@chicagocci.com; or see: www.chicagocci.com.
- July 12

Sep. 17 - **ITALIAN EXPO 2010: TOUR ITALY WITHOUT THE JET LAG.** Fourth edition, organized by the
19 Italian American Chamber of Commerce Midwest under the auspices of the Office of the Consul General of Italy in Chicago. The Expo showcases the best of Italian food, wine, tourism, design, fashion, art, culture and entertainment. This is a unique platform for exhibitors and sponsors from Italy and the U.S. to promote their companies, create international business relationships, and sell their products to their target audience. For further information, please contact Gina Shermetaro at 312/553-9137, or e-mail: gina@italianexpo.us.

About the Sponsoring Organizations...

Founded in December 1977, **The International Trade Association of Greater Chicago (ITA/GC)** was incorporated in January 1979 as an Illinois not-for-profit, voluntary business association dedicated to promoting international commerce in all its forms by providing a forum for the exchange of practical information and insight within the international business community. Annual membership dues are: Individual - \$150; Consular/Diplomatic - \$75 (up to 3 members); Academic/Faculty - \$200 (up to 8 designated faculty members); Student from a participating academic institution - \$25; Regular student - \$50; Associate/Non-resident (more than 150 miles from O'Hare International Airport) - \$50; Retired/Job Transition - \$50; Corporate (up to 8 designated members) - \$300. For a Membership Application, please call 773/725-1106; e-mail: info@itagc.org; or visit: www.itagc.org.

The **Office of Trade and Investment (OTI) of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)** is the State of Illinois' lead international advocate in promoting job retention and creation in Illinois through International Trade and Investment. The OTI motto of offering assistance to the business community by being "State Focused – Globally Connected" is accomplished through a three-tier international network consisting of: International Trade/NAFTA Opportunity Centers regionally located throughout Illinois to provide local export training; Statewide counseling and assistance provided through the OTI Chicago headquarters' staff; and foreign State of Illinois Regional Trade Offices providing in-country assistance for Illinois businesses. To contact the OTI of DCEO, please call 312/814-2828 or visit: www.illinoisbiz.biz/bus/ito/index.html.

The **U.S. Export Assistance Center Chicago** is part of the Commercial Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce and is committed to assisting U.S. firms in realizing their export potential. We do this by providing expert counseling and advice, information on markets abroad, international contacts and advocacy services. The U.S. Export Assistance Centers in Chicago, Peoria, Libertyville and Rockford are part of the Commercial Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Around the world, the 1,400 men and women of the Commercial Service promote and protect U.S. business interests abroad. The Export Assistance Centers throughout the United States offer a full range of export programs and services under one roof. Here in Chicago, we are co-located with the Small Business Administration and the U.S. Export-Import Bank to provide export financing assistance to companies in Illinois and throughout the Midwest. To contact the U.S. Export Assistance Center, please call 312/353-8040 or visit: www.buyusa.gov/uppermidwest.

Comprised of 28 volunteers appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, the **Illinois District Export Council** supports, assists and advises the U.S. Commercial Service Chicago in its mission to increase the exports of the United States. For further information, please e-mail: info@illinoisdec.org.