



# TradeSource

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Issue 11

## Improving Data and Its Accessibility

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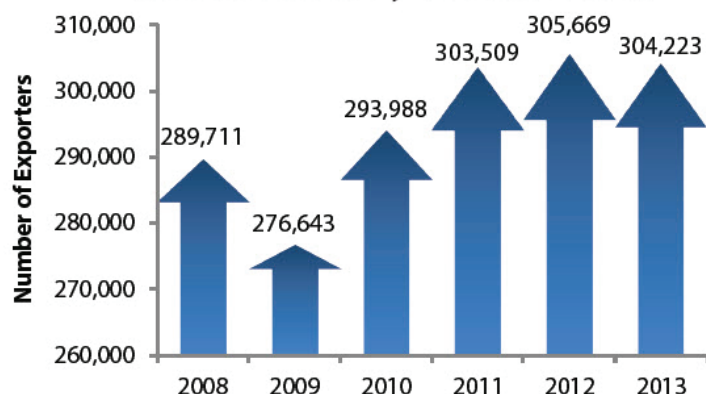
Data is a national asset with untapped potential to advance trade and innovation. Feedback from U.S. industry makes it clear that American companies want improved data from the federal government to increase their knowledge base and to make smarter, more informed export-related decisions. Communities and states need trade data to incorporate export promotion into their economic development planning. In the international trade space, critical data can take many forms, from statistics, to market research, to information on opportunities and events. Nearly as important as the data itself is its accessibility. Increasingly, companies need data to come to them rather than for them to have to go looking for it.

Under the [National Export Initiative/NEXT](#) effort, federal agencies are working to maximize the value of government data for businesses and communities and make data easier to find, access, and use. In this issue, we highlight new and powerful data tools for getting targeted information to your business more effectively and efficiently.

# How Trade Stats Can Help U.S. Businesses Expand Abroad

*Dale Kelly, Chief of the International Trade Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau*

## The number of merchandise exporters have increased by 10% since 2009



International markets provide an opportunity for U.S. businesses to increase sales and overall competitiveness, but knowing how to get started and learning about foreign markets can be a daunting task. The U.S. Census Bureau can help.

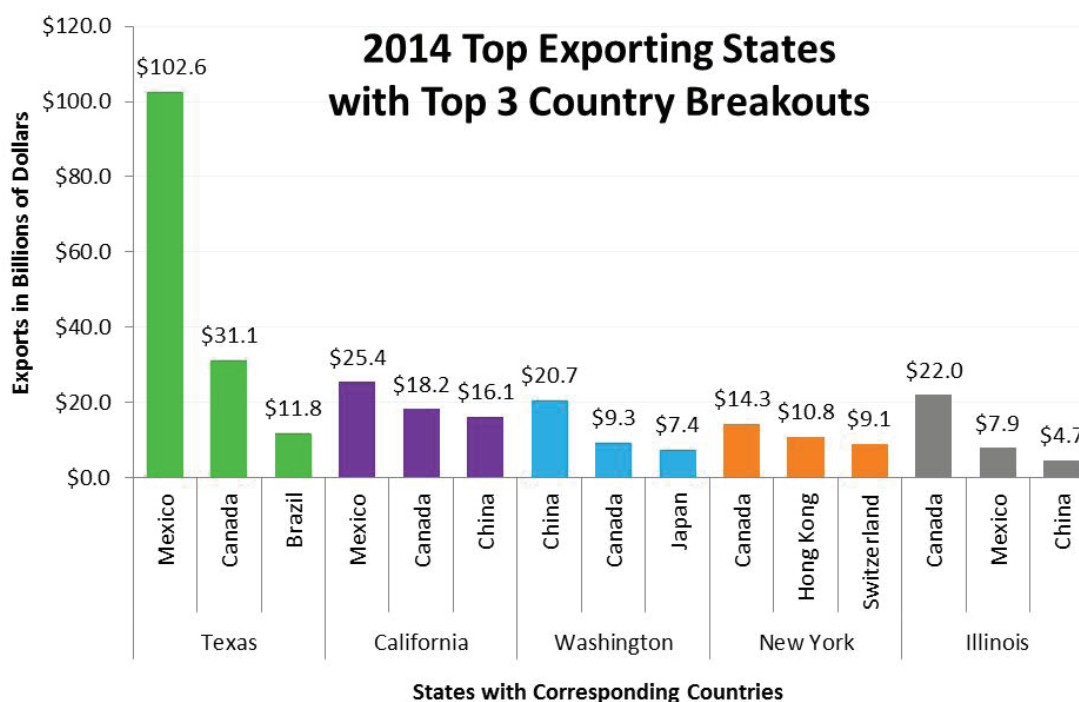
Although known most widely as the home of the decennial census of U.S. households, the Census Bureau is also responsible for collecting, compiling, and publishing monthly trade statistics on all goods imported and exported

from the United States. Every month, the Census Bureau releases information on the import and export of commodities such as soybeans, corn, rice, chemicals, steel, aircraft, and lumber. Together with the Bureau of Economic Analysis, which collects similar data on services imports and exports, the Census Bureau releases the “[U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services](#)” report. This report provides detailed information on import and export of merchandise by commodity and end-use category as well as by the multitude of countries and areas with which the U.S. conducts international trade. All of these reports are available at the Census Bureau’s [foreign trade Web page](#).

## 2014 Top Countries - Exports



## 2014 Top Exporting States with Top 3 Country Breakouts



*Continued on page 3*

**How Trade Stats Can Help U.S. Businesses Expand Abroad—Con.****Small and medium-sized exporters (SMEs)  
account for 98% of exporters...****...and 34% of known goods export value**

How can this information help U.S. businesses? The Census Bureau provides detailed information on more than 9,000 export commodities and 18,000 import commodities. Easily accessible online, this information assists U.S. businesses in making informed decisions by tracking the global marketplace for their product and identifying possible opportunities to expand to new markets.

In addition to data, the Census Bureau provides resources and tools to help businesses export. The Census Bureau's [International Trade Management Division](#) conducts [outreach](#)

and [training](#) around the country. Training includes [Webinars](#), seminars, workshops, and [blog posts](#) on using trade data, understanding [Foreign Trade Regulations](#), and utilizing the [Automated Export System](#), which allows the electronic filing of export information directly to U.S. Customs and Border Protection. These same data are the source of the Census Bureau's merchandise export and import statistics. Trade is a vital part of our economy, and the Census Bureau plays an important role in providing detailed and timely information to U.S. businesses to make informed decisions.

**Upcoming Webinars and Seminars on Export Compliance**

2015 AES Compliance Seminar and Workshops		2015 Webinar Schedule	
San Francisco, CA	September 9–10, 2015	FTR 501: Best Practices	July 9, 2015
Laredo, TX	October 7–8, 2015		
Virginia Beach, VA	November 4–5, 2015	AES 101: Overview of the Automated Export System (AES)	July 23, 2015
Tampa, FL	December 9–10, 2015		

# Extra! Extra! Read All About It!!! AESDirect Will Be Migrating Into ACE This Fall!

*Theresa Gordon, International Trade Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau*

## **Who:**

Attention all exporters (U.S. Principal Parties in Interest), authorized agents, and freight forwarders . . .

## **What:**

AESDirect export filing application will be migrated into the International Trade Data System's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). In addition, a comprehensive export report feature will be available to filers and USPPs to facilitate their business processes.

## **Why:**

The President mandated a single window system for exports and imports and ACE will be the hub to fulfill this directive. Integrating AESDirect into AES/ACE will eliminate the need to maintain two data collection systems for exports. The Executive Order can be viewed at [www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/02/19/executive-order-streamlining-exportimport-process-america-s-businesses](http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/02/19/executive-order-streamlining-exportimport-process-america-s-businesses).

## **When:**

**Summer 2015:** The account registration and export reports feature will be available.

Filers and USPPs can begin registering for ACE accounts and request approval for access to their export data.

**Fall 2015:** The AESDirect application will be available for filer use. Those who have already registered for an ACE account will have access immediately and all others will need to submit an ACE account application form to access the new AESDirect filing system.

**Early 2016 (tentatively):** AESDirect EDI Upload and Weblink functionality will be deployed following the release of the AESDirect filing application.

## **How:**

Details regarding account availability, the registration process, and transitioning to the new system will be provided over the next few months.

**Note:** The new filing application will encompass all of the features inherent in both of the current online and offline filing applications (AESDirect and AESPcLink) as well as enhancements to include: auto-save feature, saving partial shipments, saving complete shipments for later submission, option to view interface in Spanish, user administration, and the creation of profiles and templates.

***Be on the lookout for updates as they are made available!***

# ACE Export Registration Form and Export Report Access

*Theresa Gordon, International Trade Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau*

Attention all exporters (U.S. Principal Parties in Interest), authorized agents, and freight forwarders . . .

**The Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) Exporter Account Registration Form and the ability to obtain access to Export Reports by Employer Identification Number (EIN) will be available online this summer!!!**

Completing the application process and establishing an account will facilitate access to export reports. It will also position each account holder for access the **NEW AESDirect filing portal that will be made available in ACE in Fall 2015.**

## **IF YOU ARE A CURRENT ACE IMPORT ACCOUNT HOLDER:**

The Trade Account Owner (TAO)—the highest level of access for your company account—may create new Export accounts for any or all of the EINs currently established in an existing import account. All established EINs on the import side will be granted export report access without further vetting. The TAO can also add new EINs to the export however, it must request access to Export Reports as noted in the “Request Export Reports” section in the next column.

## **IF YOU ARE COMPLETELY NEW TO ACE AND DO NOT HAVE AN IMPORT ACCOUNT:**

The TAO must register your company or parent company. ACE has a hierarchical structure that will allow multiple EINs to be registered under one main account (referred to as the Top Account). It is imperative that the principal EIN is registered by the TAO and all subsequent EINs are added to that account after it is established. Companies operating under one EIN will be designated as the Top Account upon registration.

### **Request Export Reports:**

Once an account is established, ability to request access to Export Reports is available. This will initiate the approval process and you will be prompted to visit a link that will provide additional information required to complete the request process. The vetting process will begin once all steps have been completed and will be handled in the order in which the requests are received.

**Note:** Once available, we will send an update with a link to the application form. A screenshot of the form is included below.


***Be on the lookout for updates as they are made available!***

*Continued on page 6*



**ACE Export Registration Form and Export Report Access—Con.**

Official website of the Department of Homeland Security

 **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

OMB No. 1651-0105  
Expiration Date: 11-30-2015

## Apply for an ACE Exporter Account

**Instructions**

Please complete the form below to request an ACE Exporter Account. An ACE Exporter Account will provide access to AES Direct to file Electronic Export Information (EEI) and to initiate the approval process to access ACE export reports. Once you have completed the form, select "Submit". **Note: Only US and US territory entities may apply for an ACE Exporter Account.**

Red asterisk fields are required.

### Corporate Information

EIN #

Re-enter EIN #

Company Name

DUNS #

End of Fiscal Year

Country

Address 1

Address 2

City

State

Zip Code

### ACE Account Owner

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Telephone #  Extension

Fax #

E-mail

Re-enter E-mail

☐ If the Account Owner's Address is the same as Company's Address reported above, check this box and skip the rest of this section.

Country

Address 1

Address 2

City

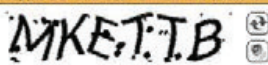
State

Zip Code

### Submit Form

☐ By checking this box, I have read and agree to the [Terms and Conditions](#) that govern the use of this system.

Retype the characters from the picture



You must accept the [Terms and Conditions](#) before the form can be submitted

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: An agency may not conduct or sponsor an information collection and a person is not required to respond to this information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number and an expiration date. The control number for this collection is 1651-0105. The estimated average time to complete this application is 4 minutes. If you have any comments regarding the burden estimate you can write to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Regulations and Rulings, 90 K Street, NE, 10th Floor, Washington DC 20229

# Tips on How to Resolve AES Fatal Errors

*Paul Newman, International Trade Management Division, U.S. Census Bureau*

When a shipment is filed to the AES, a system response message is generated and indicates whether the shipment has been accepted or rejected. If the shipment is accepted, the AES filer receives an Internal Transaction Number (ITN) as confirmation. However, if the shipment is rejected, a Fatal Error notification is received.

To help you resolve AES Fatal Errors, here are some tips on how to correct the most frequent errors generated in AES.

## Fatal Error Response Code: 120

**Narrative:** Carrier Unknown

**Reason:** The Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) reported is not known in AES.

**Resolution:** For vessel, rail, or truck shipments, the carrier must be identified with an active SCAC code issued by the National Motor Freight Traffic (NMFTA). For air shipments, the carrier must be identified with an active IATA code issued by the International Air Transport Association.

If the Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) as known at the time of filing is not valid in AES and a valid Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA) cannot be obtained from the carrier, as a last resort, report the Carrier ID as UNKN for vessel, rail, or truck shipments. For an unknown air carrier, report one of the acceptable “unknown” codes as follows:

- \*F or 99F for Unknown Foreign Air Carrier
- \*U or 99U for Unknown U.S. Air Carrier
- \*C or 99C for Unknown Canadian Air Carrier
- \*\* or 990 for flyway aircraft reported under Chapter 88

**Verify the Mode of Transportation Code and the Carrier ID (SCAC/IATA), correct the shipment and resubmit.**

## Fatal Error Response Code: 123

**Narrative:** Conveyance Name Missing

**Reason:** The Conveyance Name/Carrier Name is missing when the Mode of Transportation reported is one that requires the Conveyance Name/Carrier Name to be reported.

**Resolution:** The Conveyance Name/Carrier Name must be reported for vessel, air, rail, and truck shipments. For vessel shipments, report the name of the vessel. For air, rail, and truck shipments, report the name of the carrier.

**Verify the Mode of Transportation Code and Conveyance Name/Carrier Name, correct the shipment and resubmit.**

## Fatal Error Response Code: 256

**Narrative:** USPPI Postal Code Not Valid For State

**Reason:** The Postal Code and State Code reported in the USPPI address do not match.

**Resolution:** The reported USPPI State Code must match the state associated to the Postal Code.

**Verify the USPPI State Code and Postal Code combination, correct the shipment, and resubmit.**

## Fatal Error Response Code: 649

**Narrative:** Quantity 1 Cannot Exceed Shipping Weight

**Reason:** Shipping Weight is reported in kilograms. When the Unit of Measure 1 requires kilograms, the first net quantity (Quantity 1) cannot exceed the Shipping Weight. Ensure the Shipping Weight includes the weight of the packaging materials.

**Resolution:** The first net quantity (Quantity 1) in kilograms cannot exceed the Shipping Weight in kilograms.

**Verify the Quantity 1 and Shipping Weight, correct the shipment and resubmit.**

For a complete list of Fatal Error Response Codes, their reasons, and resolutions, see Appendix A, Commodity Filing Response Messages.

It is important that AES filers correct Fatal Errors as soon as they are received in order to comply with the Foreign Trade Regulations. These errors must be corrected prior to export for shipments filed predeparture and as soon as possible for shipments filed postdeparture but not later than five calendar days after departure.

For further information or questions, contact the U.S. Census Bureau's Data Collection Branch:

Telephone: 800-549-0595, select option 1 for AES

E-mail: [askaes@census.gov](mailto:askaes@census.gov)

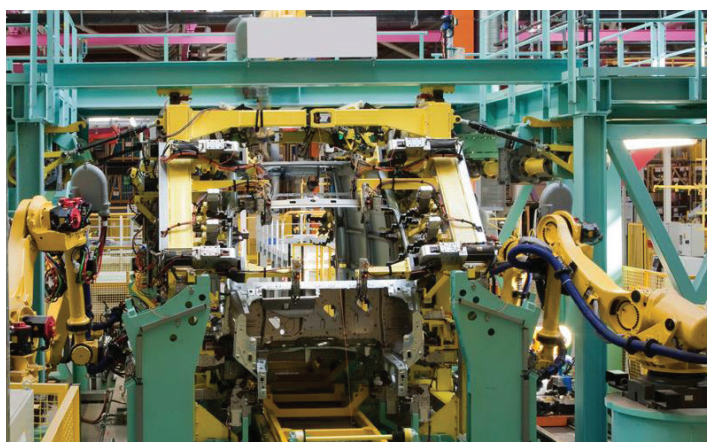
Online: [www.census.gov/trade](http://www.census.gov/trade)

Blog: <http://globalreach.blogs.census.gov/>

# New Manufacturing Trade Data Report: A Vital Resource for Businesses That Conduct International Trade

*Maria A. Iseman, Economic Indicators Division, U.S. Census Bureau*

On December 18, 2014, the U.S. Census Bureau released the [2012 Manufacturing and International Trade Report \(MITR\)](#). This new annual report contains manufacturing data on the value of product shipments. The data are published on a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis from the 2012 Economic Census Industry Series. The MITR also includes official U.S. export and import merchandise trade statistics.

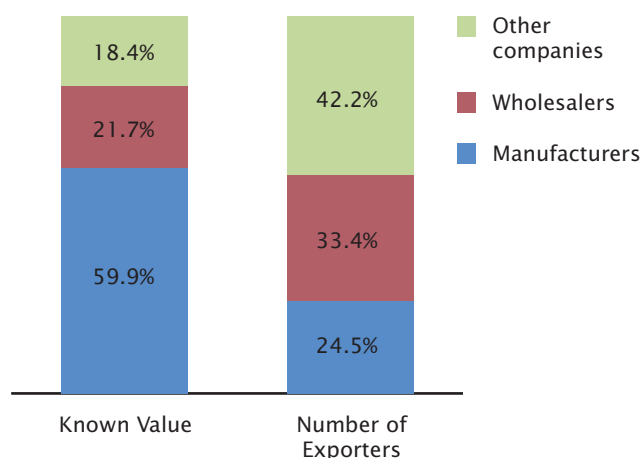


The MITR will, for the first time, provide a comprehensive comparison between detailed manufacturing product class data and associated import and export data.

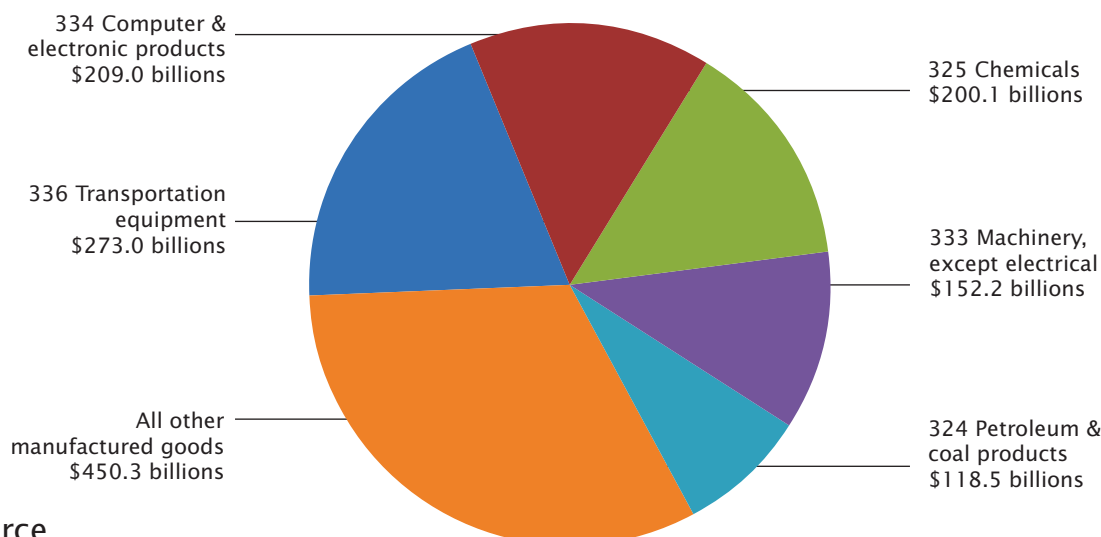
In August 2015, the Census Bureau plans to release the 2013 MITR. The report will present manufacturing product data from the 2013 Annual Survey of Manufactures and 2012 Economic Census Summary Series, with new and revised official U.S. export and import merchandise trade statistics.

For information on manufacturing data, contact: 1-800-242-2184, e-mail <[ewd.outreach@census.gov](mailto:ewd.outreach@census.gov)> or visit <[www.census.gov/manufacturing](http://www.census.gov/manufacturing)>. For information on International Trade Report, contact: 1-800-549-0595, Option 4, e-mail <[eid.international.trade.data@census.gov](mailto:eid.international.trade.data@census.gov)> or visit <[www.census.gov/trade](http://www.census.gov/trade)>.

**2013 Export Value and Number of Exporters by Company Type (by NAICS)**



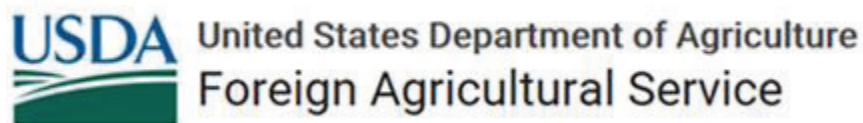
**Share of 2014 Manufactured Goods Exports by 3 digit NAICS Code**





# Trade Lead System

*Nancy Hubbell, Foreign Agricultural Service, Office of Trade Programs, U.S. Department of Agriculture*



***Did you know that nearly 96 percent of food and agricultural product consumers live outside the United States?***

***Did you know that two-thirds of the world's purchasing power is in foreign countries?***

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) can help you build markets for your products around the globe with our new Trade Lead System (TLS).

TLS provides real-time distribution of sales opportunities from foreign buyers to potential U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products. All TLS leads are reviewed by FAS' global network of overseas offices. FAS has 96 offices covering 167 countries ready to serve you.

TLS helps connect U.S. exporters with foreign buyers worldwide seeking to buy U.S. food and agricultural products. Exporters can search leads by product names or by Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) codes.

The TLS provides U.S. exporters with a broad range of options to contact foreign buyers. You can choose to work through FAS, through one of USDA's 70 trade association

partners, including State Regional Trade Groups, or through your State Department of Agriculture. You can also work directly and independently with the foreign buyer. The choice is yours!

New exporters or experienced exporters, whether you are a small business or large, can get help from FAS' network of overseas offices with language differences and in-country assistance. USDA partners also offer export help.

To register for the free Trade Lead System service go to [www.fas.usda.gov/trade-lead-system](http://www.fas.usda.gov/trade-lead-system).

Check out many other Export Assistance tools and programs at [www.fas.usda.gov/topics/getting-started](http://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/getting-started).

For additional information contact:

Nancy Hubbell  
FAS/Office of Trade Programs  
Phone: 202-401-0150  
E-mail: [nancy.hubbell@fas.usda.gov](mailto:nancy.hubbell@fas.usda.gov)



# Using Data to Understand and Take Advantage of U.S. Free Trade Agreements

*Rebecca Gudicello, Office of Trade Negotiations and Analysis, International Trade Administration*

Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) have proved to be one of the best ways to open up foreign markets to U.S. exporters. Trade Agreements reduce barriers to U.S. exports, protect U.S. interests, and enhance the rule of law in the FTA partner country. The reduction of trade barriers and the creation of a more stable and transparent trading and investment environment make it easier and cheaper for U.S. companies to export their products and services to trading partner markets. The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries. In 2014, 47 percent of U.S. goods exports, totaling \$765 billion, went to FTA partner countries. The United States also enjoyed a trade surplus in manufactured goods with our FTA partners totaling \$55 billion in 2014.

The International Trade Administration provides a number of resources to help U.S. companies understand and take advantage of these free trade agreements.

## ***Understand Why FTA Matters: See How Exporters Are Already Using These Agreements***

- Understand U.S. trade patterns with the **Free Trade Agreement trade tables**, which provide summary information on annual and year-to-date trade with FTA partners. See <[www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg\\_ian/documents/webcontent/tg\\_ian\\_003368.pdf](http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg_ian/documents/webcontent/tg_ian_003368.pdf)>.
- Discover how **Trade Agreements benefit U.S. exports** through factsheets highlighting benefits from exporting to FTA partners. These factsheets include some state and Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) information and highlight the importance of ongoing negotiations. See <[www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg\\_ian/documents/webcontent/tg\\_ian\\_005310.pdf](http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg_ian/documents/webcontent/tg_ian_005310.pdf)>.

## ***Conducting FTA Country Market Research: Learn About Trading With FTA Partners***

- Research national trade and state merchandise export activity to FTA partners (and other countries) using **TradeStats Express**. This resource provides U.S. goods trade statistics by market and industry. Find out top exports by industry to FTA partner countries. Also, discover exports by product and market destination for your state. See <<http://tse.export.gov/TSE/TSEhome.aspx>>.

- Learn about exporters and SME trade figures and the number of exporting companies by market, state, metro area, zip code, and industry in the **Exporter Database**. See <<http://tse.export.gov/EDB/SelectReports.aspx?DATA=ExporterDB>>.
- The **market research library** on Export.gov gives you access to reports on countries, industries, and commercial developments written by the Commercial Service's trade professionals. Country Commercial Guides have up-to-date information on doing business in most countries: the economic environment, leading sectors, trade regulations, customs and standards, and much more. You can also sign up for e-mail updates on the latest industry events. See <[www.export.gov/mrktresearch](http://www.export.gov/mrktresearch)> and <[www.export.gov/fta](http://www.export.gov/fta)>.

## ***Opportunities From the FTAs: Find Out How FTAs Impact Your Exports***

- Use the **FTA Tariff Tool** to see current and future FTA tariffs that apply to your products, as well as the date on which those products become duty free. This tool combines all U.S. FTA tariff information into a simple and easy-to-search public interface. See <[www.export.gov/fta/ftatarifftool](http://www.export.gov/fta/ftatarifftool)>.
- Uncover what benefits exist for U.S. industry by reviewing our **FTA Industry Opportunity Reports**. These reports highlight the benefits for U.S. industry from individual FTAs, with a particular focus on new market access. Reports are prepared at the conclusion of each negotiation. Reports for FTAs currently in force, including Korea, Colombia, and Panama are available. See <[www.trade.gov/mas/ian/tradeagreements/fta/tg\\_ian\\_002401.asp](http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/tradeagreements/fta/tg_ian_002401.asp)>.
- Receive an overview of the continued opportunities from FTAs by perusing the "**2015 Brings New Market Access and Duty-Free Treatment for U.S. Exports**" factsheet. This document provides highlights on new duty-free treatment for U.S. exports to select FTA partners that accrued this year. See <[www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg\\_ian/documents/webcontent/tg\\_ian\\_005402.pdf](http://www.trade.gov/mas/ian/build/groups/public/@tg_ian/documents/webcontent/tg_ian_005402.pdf)>.

*Continued on page 11*

## Using Data to Understand and Take Advantage of U.S. Free Trade Agreements—Con.

### **Potential Benefits of TPP and TTIP: Discover How Your State and Industry Can Benefit From Ongoing FTA Negotiations**

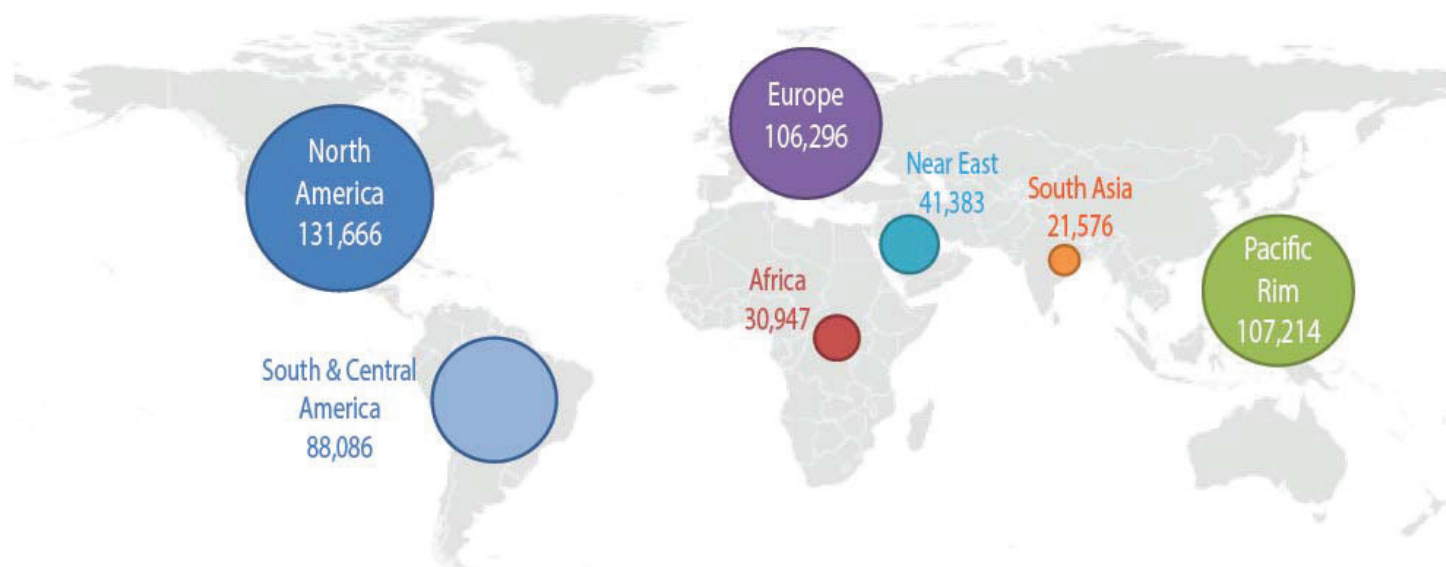
- The regional trade agreements currently under negotiation—Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership

(TTIP)—provide significant opportunities for the United States. Discover what these agreements could mean for your state and sector in ITA's **Trade Promotion Authority state reports**. Make sure to turn to page two for information on the potential benefits from trade agreements under negotiation. See <[www.trade.gov/fta](http://www.trade.gov/fta)>.

## North America, Particularly Canada, Remains the Most Popular Export Destination for U.S. Companies

Number of U.S. Exporters to World Regions, 2013

(In this map, North America includes the United States' NAFTA trading partners, Canada and Mexico.)



# The Consolidated Screening List Helps U.S. Companies Comply With Export Laws

*Kimberly Becht, Office of Chief Information Officer, International Trade Administration*

U.S. companies can now use a [simple tool](#) to search the federal government's Consolidated Screening List (CSL).

The CSL is a streamlined collection of 11 different "screening lists" from the U.S. Departments of Commerce, State, and the Treasury. The CSL contains names of individuals and companies with whom a U.S. company may not be allowed to do business due to U.S. export regulations, sanctions, or other restrictions.

It is extremely important for U.S. businesses to consult the CSL before doing business with an entity to ensure it is not flagged on any of the agency lists. If an entity appears on the list, U.S. businesses must do further research into the individual or company in accordance with the administering agency's rules before doing business with them.

The U.S. agencies that maintain these lists have targeted these entities for various national security and foreign policy reasons, including illegally exporting arms, violating U.S. sanctions, and trafficking narcotics. By consolidating these lists into one collection, the CSL supports President Obama's [Export Control Reform \(ECR\) initiative](#), which is designed to enhance U.S. national security.

Web and mobile app developers can now also use an Application Programming Interface (API) to search the CSL. The [Consolidated Screening List API](#) enables computers to freely access more than 8,000 names and aliases in an open, machine-readable format. By making the CSL available as an API, Web developers and software designers can create new tools, Web sites, or mobile apps to access the CSL and display the results. This allows private sector innovation to help disseminate this critical information in ways most helpful to U.S. businesses.

For example, a freight forwarder could integrate the API into its processes and automatically check to see if any party to its export transactions is on any of these lists. Enabling the freight forwarder to more easily check the CSL on behalf of its customers helps more U.S. companies stay compliant with export law, thereby strengthening national security.

Search APIs

## Consolidated Screening List

Keyword

Sources

Countries

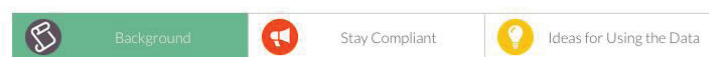
Search

7899 results.

During the process of creating the API, the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration and Bureau of Industry and Security collaborated with agencies within the Departments of the Treasury and State. For U.S. businesses that frequently consult the CSL, the API provides an alternative to downloading the various lists from each separate agency.

Later this year, ITA will upgrade the CSL with two additional enhancements. The API will include "fuzzy search" capabilities to produce valid search results in response to less precise search terms. The API will also enable searches on an entity's address.

## Consolidated Screening List API



The Consolidated Screening List API consolidates nine export screening lists of the Departments of Commerce, State and the Treasury into a single data feed as an aid to industry in conducting electronic screens of potential parties to regulated transactions.

This new API, along with the November 2014 announcement of a [new Deputy Chief Data Officer and Data Advisory Council](#), is another step in fulfilling Commerce's "Open for Business Agenda" priority to open up datasets that keep U.S. businesses more competitive, and enable businesses and communities to make better use of government data.



# Stay on Top of Proposed Technical Regulations That Could Affect Trade

MaryAnn Hogan, USA World Trade Organization, Technical Barriers to Trade Enquiry Point, (USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point), National Institute of Standards and Technology

Changes to foreign technical regulations can directly affect your exporting business and your foreign competitiveness. Some changes can be small, requiring only minor modifications to your product to remain compliant. Other proposed new regulations or changes to existing regulations could represent a major barrier to future business. In either case, your company or industry association can be prepared by working with your foreign buyer or agent to avoid surprises, adapting where feasible, and otherwise weighing in before changes are implemented.

*Notify U.S.* is a free, Web-based e-mail registration service that offers U.S. entities (citizens, industries, organizations) an opportunity to review and comment on proposed foreign technical regulations that can affect their businesses and their access to international markets. This service and its associated Web site are managed and operated by the USA Enquiry Point for the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). The Enquiry Point is part of the Standards Coordination Office (SCO) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). NIST is a bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC).

Member countries of the WTO are required under the TBT Agreement to report (notify) to the WTO their actions concerning standards, technical regulations, and conformity assessment procedures for manufactured goods that could affect trade with other member countries. The WTO Secretariat makes this information publicly available in the form of “notifications.” The purpose of *Notify U.S.* is to provide its subscribers with customized alerts and access to the notifications made by all WTO members to the WTO’s Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).

By using the *Notify U.S.*, subscribers receive via e-mail notice of availability of drafts of proposed changes to existing, as well as drafts of new, domestic, and foreign technical regulations for manufactured products. Included in the subscriber’s e-mail alert is a brief description of the newly available notifications (which are only from the countries and industry sectors of

interest to the subscriber) and link to the *Notify U.S.* Web site where the subscriber can read complete details and request for review and comment the complete texts of regulations that are not provided by the member at the time of notification. When made available by other WTO members, *Notify U.S.* provides access to the full-texts of the regulations in the language provided by the member. *Notify U.S.* offers a list of translation services for customers who wish to inquire about fee-based translations of the texts that

are not available in English. At this time, the *Notify U.S.* Service is only available to U.S. citizens and individuals that are part of U.S. based organizations and industries.

A current example of a proposed or new regulation is Indonesia’s “National Standard for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines for General Use—Specification, Performance and Tests Method (SNI 0119:2012).” It concerns proposed standards for engines used in construction and in agricultural and industrial applications, as referenced in notification [G/TBT/N/IDN/97](#). U.S. industry has been able to comment on the pro-

posal with the goal of maintaining competitive access to this market. Submitting comments on WTO member notifications provides industry the opportunity to influence the development of the final regulation implemented in the member country.

Comments submitted on WTO notifications through *Notify U.S.* and the USA WTO TBT Enquiry Point provide U.S. trade officials and the receiving WTO member invaluable information about industry concerns and challenges presented when new or changing regulations on manufactured goods are introduced. *Notify U.S.* provides useful information and guidance on submitting comments.

Registered users can access the *Notify U.S.* by signing in with their e-mail address and password at [www.nist.gov/notifyus](http://www.nist.gov/notifyus). Any U.S. individual who needs access and does not have an account and a password can select this [Register Link](#) to register for this service.





## Contact Information

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*The secure fax number is for confidential company information (i.e., data requests). Please include a cover sheet with the name and/or branch phone number to whom the fax should be delivered. The e-mail addresses below are not secure. Confidential company information should not be sent to these addresses.	

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