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# INDUSTRY TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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The Industry Trade Advisory Committees (ITACs) are an integral link between industry and the United States Government. Jointly administered by the Department of Commerce and the United States Trade Representative (USTR), the ITACs provide a unique public-private forum to ensure industry has a voice in formulating the trade policy of the United States. The industry advisors serving on the ITACs provide valuable input as the Administration advances its trade agenda to improve economic opportunities for America's businesses, workers, and consumers.

U.S. Government policy makers rely on our trade advisors to identify barriers and to provide advice on key objectives and bargaining positions for multilateral, bilateral, and regional trade negotiations, as well as other trade-related policy matters. As a result of these efforts, the United States is able to display a united front when it negotiates trade agreements with other nations. The United States' negotiating position is strengthened because its objectives are developed with bipartisan, private-sector input throughout the negotiations.

The ITACs were established under the Trade Act of 1974, as amended. Congress wanted to ensure that trade negotiators were consulting with the private sector during trade negotiations. Following the private-sector advisors' important contributions to the successful conclusion of the Tokyo Round of Trade Negotiations, Congress amended the Trade Act, and included a broader mandate for the ITACs under the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 and the Omnibus Trade and Tariff Act of 1988, as well as legislated counterpart programs at the Departments of Agriculture and Labor. The Trade Act of 2002 (Trade Promotion Authority legislation) re-authorized the requirement of all trade advisory committees to provide to the President, the USTR, and Congress with reports on trade agreements and to include an advisory opinion as to whether and to what extent trade agreements promote the economic interest of the United States and achieves the applicable overall negotiating objectives as set forth in the Trade Act. The ITACs must also provide an advisory opinion as to whether the agreements provide for equity and reciprocity within a sector or functional area.

Commerce and the USTR created the Industry Trade Advisory Center to jointly administer the work of sixteen ITACs, a Committee of Chairs, and over 375 industry executives. The sixteen ITACs and the Committee of Chairs, were established to reflect the manufacturing and services sectors of the U.S. economy, as well as issue-oriented matters that cut across all sectors. The Committee of Chairs was created to provide a channel for cross-sharing among the committees and to provide input with respect to other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation, and administration of the trade policy of the United States.

The Industry Trade Advisory Center is located at the United States Department of Commerce. Additional information on the Center and the ITACs may be obtained by contacting:

The Industry Trade Advisory Center  
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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
AND THE  
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**INDUSTRY TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEES (ITACs)**

Committee of Chairs of the Industry Trade Advisory Committees

- (ITAC 1) Aerospace Equipment
- (ITAC 2) Automotive Equipment and Capital Goods
- (ITAC 3) Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, Health/Science Products and Services
- (ITAC 4) Consumer Goods
- (ITAC 5) Distribution Services
- (ITAC 6) Energy and Energy Services
- (ITAC 7) Forest Products
- (ITAC 8) Information and Communications Technologies, Services,  
and Electronic Commerce
- (ITAC 9) Non-Ferrous Metals and Building Materials
- (ITAC 10) Services and Finance Industries
- (ITAC 11) Small and Minority Business
- (ITAC 12) Steel
- (ITAC 13) Textiles and Clothing
- (ITAC 14) Customs Matters and Trade Facilitation
- (ITAC 15) Intellectual Property Rights
- (ITAC 16) Standards and Technical Trade Barriers

**Industry Trade Advisory Center**

U.S. Department of Commerce

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*\*Note: The Committee of Chairs is comprised of the elected Chairs of the sixteen ITACs.*