

Trade News

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The Columbia, SC office services the following counties: Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, Chester, Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Edgefield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, Sumter, and York.

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The Charleston, SC office services the following counties: Beaufort, Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Marion, Marlboro, Williamsburg and supports Columbus, Brunswick, and New Hanover counties in North Carolina.

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The Greenville office services the following counties: Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, and Union.

TRADE NEWS is the monthly newsletter of the U.S. Commercial Service, U.S. Dept. of Commerce in South Carolina. It is distributed by email. To correct, add or delete an address, send complete contact information to the Columbia USEAC at the email address or fax # above.

Welcome Aboard!

Mr. Joe Hanley, MidAtlantic Network Director for the US Commercial Service was pleased to announce recently, the selection of our two new colleagues in Columbia. Mrs. **Dorette Coetsee**, formerly the Director of Innovation & Growth Strategies with SC's Find New Markets, will direct the Columbia Export Assistance Center; joined by Mrs. **Amy Thompson**, former International Trade Manager for The Americas at the South Carolina Department of Commerce's International Division. Together, they will provide service to Midlands-area Exporters and continue building strong relations with our state partners, starting June 9, 2008. Welcome, Dorette and Amy, we all look forward to working with you!

Notice Regarding Initiation of 2008 Annual GSP Product and Country Eligibility Practices Review

In a Federal Register Notice, USTR announced that it will receive petitions in 2008 to modify the list of products that are eligible for **duty-free treatment under the GSP** program, and to modify the GSP status of certain GSP beneficiary developing countries because of country practices. This notice further determines that the deadline for submission of product petitions, other than those requesting competitive need limitation (CNL) waivers, and country practice petitions for the 2008 Annual GSP Product and Country Eligibility Practices Review is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 18, 2008. The deadline for submission of product petitions requesting CNL waivers is 5:00 p.m., November 13, 2008. The list of product petitions and country practice petitions accepted for review will be announced in the Federal Register at later dates. For further information, please consult the [Federal Register Notice](#).

Save the Dates.....



Wilmington Workshop for New-to-Export companies, a Refresher for others...

Are you seeing new demand for your products/services from outside the domestic market? You need some additional training/guidance for your international sales staff? This workshop will help you gain a better understanding of process and the players (banks, forwarders, research, government agencies) that need to become a part of your team.

Venue: Wilmington, NC - NC Ports Authority **Date:** Thursday July 24, 2008

For more information please contact: Phil Minard, US Commercial Service, Charleston.

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The Americas Competitiveness Forum (ACF) Promoting Prosperity and Economic Opportunity

The second annual ACF will provide an opportunity for governments, businesses, and academia to discuss actions that can be taken to improve competitiveness and economic prosperity in the Americas. The ACF is a unique combination of a business conference coupled with a policy brainstorming session. The forum will also provide a venue for companies and foreign government officials to meet and explore investment opportunities.

Venue: Atlanta, Georgia **Date:** August 17-19, 2008

For more information/Register: <http://www.competitivenessforum.org>



Trade Seminars coming to *your* office.....

Green IT Europe - Webinar 6/5/2008

Gartner

The U.S. Commercial Service and Gartner Research have teamed up to present to you this timely webinar featuring European experts from both organizations with years of expertise. This webinar provides much more than just an overview of Green legislation and trends on the IT market in Europe. It also addresses approaches that European companies and government agencies are taking to "Green" procurement and how U.S exporters can capitalize on these new policies to promote their business.

Website: <http://www.buyusa.gov/ict/green.html>

Market of the Month - Indonesia More islands than Minnesota has lakes!

Commercial travel and business opportunities in Indonesia are now easier and more accessible! *On Friday, May 23, 2008, Ambassador Hume announced that the U.S. government's travel warning on Indonesia had been lifted - effective immediately.*

This announcement will benefit commercial travel and will allow sales opportunities for American firms to increase. Ambassador Hume commended "the improvements made by Indonesia in its current security situation."

http://www.export.gov/articles/mom_indonesia.asp



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"Iran is a particularly urgent priority for us. We have learned that there have been occasions in the past where U.S.-controlled technology made its way to Iran and into Iraq, where it was used in IEDs against U.S. and coalition forces. We will do everything in our power to ensure that this never happens again."

Undersecretary of Commerce **Mario Mancuso**, Bureau of Industry & Security, speaking at Canary Wharf in London at a recent conference on US National Security and Trade Controls.

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Need incentive to Export? Today's Exchange Rate - 6/3/08:

1 Euro (EUR) = 1.55401 US Dollar

1 Canadian Dollar (CAD) = 1.00290 US Dollar

Earn more frequent flyer miles....go there!!

*Trade Forums, Trade Shows,
Conventions, Trade Missions....*

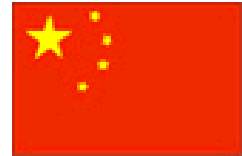


South Carolina's

Trade Mission to China

Shanghai, Shenzhen, Xiamen & Hong Kong

September 4-13, 2008



Early Bird Deadline: Monday, June 9 (final registration deadline is June 16 or when all six business spaces are filled, whichever comes first)

Register online at www.regonline.com/China08 early to guarantee your spot!

You are invited to join our state-led mission to China this September. This event will offer your company an excellent opportunity to develop export sales by meeting with Chinese firms that are specifically interested in doing business with you. China now ranks as one of the top three markets for U.S. exports, and South Carolina companies can no longer afford to ignore the tremendous sales opportunities that exist for their products and services in the world's fastest growing economy.

The China mission will include stops in four cities: Shanghai, Shenzhen, Xiamen, and Hong Kong. The mission focus is on Shenzhen and Xiamen, China's first cities to implement capitalist reforms in 1980. Shenzhen is the most affluent city in mainland China, and both cities enjoy a per capita GDP that is higher than Shanghai's!

This mission will provide your company with the resources and guidance needed to pursue export opportunities in China. The U.S. Commercial Service offices in China will arrange Gold Key Service one-on-one appointments for your company with potential buyers, distributors, representatives and/or business partners in both Shenzhen and Xiamen. You will also have the opportunity to attend the *12th China International Fair for Investment and Trade (CIFIT)*, the largest show of its kind in China.

For a participation fee of \$2,250 (register before June 9 for only \$1,750) you will receive **customized appointments** with **qualified buyers** in Shenzhen and Xiamen, two of the most dynamic regions in China. You will also receive market research from industry specialists about your company's prospects in the Chinese market and be included in dinners, market briefings, and other high-level networking events. The participation fee includes airfare for two flights within China and in-country ground transportation.

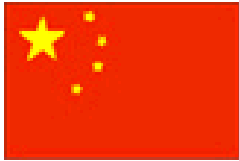
Early Bird Registration Deadline: Monday, June 9

Final Registration Deadline: Monday, June 16 (or until all six business spaces are filled, whichever come first)
(Once all six business spaces are filled, we regret that we will not be able to accept any additional registrants. Please register ASAP to guarantee that your company will benefit from this key opportunity!)

To register, visit: www.regonline.com/China08 and select registration type "Business/Exporter."

(Our goal is for all registrants to benefit from mission participation, and we regret that we may have to deny your company from participating if we determine that your potential for export sales to China is not strong. After you register, we will contact you to begin Gold Key Service matchmaking. If the U.S. Commercial Service industry specialists determine that your company does not have sufficient potential to export to China, then we will refund your participation fee.)

Questions? Call Gregory Guest @ 803-737-0651



US DOC
Certified
Missions



- **U.S. APP Clean Energy and Environment Trade Mission to China and India**

This ITA-wide cooperative mission, to be led by Assistant Secretary of Commerce David Bohigian, **September 1-12, 2008**, is offered within the context of the President's international framework on climate change, energy security, and economic growth, as well as the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (APP). The mission will promote U.S. technologies for renewable energy, biofuels, energy efficiency, clean coal, distributed generation, waste and wastewater treatment, packaging recycling, and drinking water treatment. The itinerary includes Beijing, Jinan, and Shanghai, China, and New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai, India. Details are available on the mission website: <http://www.export.gov/cleanenergymission/>

- **FedEx Certified Trade Mission to India**

FedEx, one of our corporate partners, is sponsoring its first U.S. Department of Commerce-Certified Trade Mission to India, **November 9-15, 2008**, with stops in New Delhi, Hyderabad, and Mumbai. Offering a convenient opportunity for SC firms to launch or expand business in one of the world's most dynamic markets, this certified trade mission will include site visits to leading commercial, educational and production facilities, as well as one-on-one business appointments and networking activities. Please let your clients know about this exciting initiative, which FedEx is recruiting across a broad range of industry sectors. Mission website: <http://offer.van.fedex.com/m/p/fdx/ind/trademission.asp>

Schedule of 2008 S. C. Department of Commerce Trade Missions

Date	Destination
June 21-27	Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro Brazil
July 7-11	Toronto & Montreal Canada
September 8-12	Xiamen, Hong Kong China & China Trade & Invest Show
October 15-18	Mumbai, New Delhi India & India Aviation Fair



For all missions, please contact:
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