



Photo captured pre-COVID-19

Trade:

Supporting Manufacturing Jobs and Growth; Removing Uncertainty and Unfair Barriers

Manufacturers of all sizes must compete in a global economy by selling not only to U.S. customers but also to the billions of consumers outside the United States, supporting American jobs and production. In the face of growing competition with China and other countries, global supply chain disruptions, technological changes, increasing uncertainty and other challenges, manufacturers need U.S. policies that improve their competitiveness, increase business predictability and boost their ability to reach new customers abroad. Such policies will result in more American jobs and prosperity.

The expansion of manufacturers' global reach through a more open, fair and predictable global trading environment has been pivotal to improving U.S. competitiveness and increasing U.S. manufacturing production, enabling businesses of all sizes to raise wages and create more high-skilled U.S. jobs over the past quarter century. This growth has also helped propel innovations in new technologies that save lives, protect the environment and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans.

Exports account for about half of U.S. manufacturing production, and America's trade agreement partners buy nearly half of all U.S.-

manufactured exports. Trade agreements play a critical role in promoting U.S. global economic leadership, democracy and values. If done right, these agreements aggressively open markets, eliminate barriers and establish strong standards, from protecting intellectual property to fostering fair competition. Manufacturers are committed to full implementation of existing U.S. trade agreements. Elsewhere, it is critical that the United States implement and negotiate new, comprehensive trade agreements that combat unfair barriers around the world and ensure that the United States, and not countries like China, is writing the rules for the post-pandemic global economy and trading system. Without such agreements, manufacturers in the United States risk being left behind while China and other global competitors actively negotiate new agreements that exclude us.

The current rules-based trading system and the United States' own trade tools simply have not kept up with the challenges and changes of the times. The World Trade Organization needs to be reformed and modernized to keep pace with industry and technological developments or new and harmful trade-distorting practices. Of particular focus is China, which is not only one of the largest markets for U.S.-manufactured goods, but also

the source of substantial unfair trade and state-led industrial policies that operate to the detriment of manufacturers in the United States.

“ In today’s global marketplace, we rely on fair, open and predictable commercial trade rules. Our workers, suppliers and customers benefit from new international trade agreements and strong U.S. and global trade institutions. America’s manufacturing edge depends on innovation and access to new and growing markets.”

—John McGirr, Vice President of Global Manufacturing, Corning Incorporated

A Trade Agenda for the Future Must:

- Modernize and open global markets to reflect the same principles manufacturers seek here at home: nondiscrimination, fairness, equal opportunity and competition.
- Improve our ability to eliminate foreign market-distorting practices, including by holding countries like China accountable for practices that harm manufacturers and their employees in the United States.
- Improve U.S. global competitiveness, support innovation, grow the economy and strengthen the industrial base.

Actions for Leaders to Take:

- ✓ Implement a global competitiveness bill that includes funding for the expansion of domestic production of semiconductors, counterfeiting measures that protect American manufacturing workers and consumers, funding to increase the resiliency of domestic supply chains, provisions to promote STEM workforce development and essential trade tools needed to ensure the global technological and economic leadership of our nation, and not China.
- ✓ Negotiate cutting-edge trade agreements, including those with major U.S. trading partners, to provide certainty in the global marketplace, open markets for U.S.-manufactured goods, eliminate unfair barriers and set fairer and stronger standards.
- ✓ Enforce existing U.S. trade agreements and trade rules, including ensuring full implementation of the United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement.
- ✓ Oppose efforts to waive critical IP protections, and instead advance initiatives that will leverage trade to fight COVID-19, enhance future pandemic preparedness and support the global economic recovery.
- ✓ Recommit to and strengthen relationships with trading partners to reform and modernize international trade rules and institutions, such as the WTO.
- ✓ Support and continue to improve U.S. export promotion and export financing tools, and reform export control policies.
- ✓ Modernize U.S. and foreign customs operations to cut red tape and expedite legitimate trade in the United States and across foreign borders.
- ✓ Further modernize the U.S. tariff code, including the enactment of a new Miscellaneous Tariff Bill.