



NEWS IN BRIEF

President Trump Sending Trade Advisors to China

It was recently disclosed that the President is sending Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin and his top economic and trade advisors to China to negotiate trade matters. Mnuchin and his advisors will negotiate on the trade disputes that President Trump has addressed with the proposed Section 301 retaliatory duties, published in April. The details of the discussions have not been announced.

Dates Announced for 2018 Trade Symposium

The U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) Office of Trade Relations sent out a notice that CBP will host this year's East Coast Trade Symposium from August 14-15 in Atlanta, Georgia. Registration for the symposium will open this month. We will send out the link to the registration page when it becomes available.

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Steel and Aluminum Retaliatory Duty Exemptions Extended

On April 30, President Trump issued two Presidential Proclamations that extended most of the existing exemptions from the Section 232 retaliatory duties. For steel and aluminum, the exemptions that apply to Canada, Mexico, and the European Union countries will be extended until June 1. Additionally, the President has granted an indefinite extension for both steel and aluminum to Argentina, Australia, and Brazil.

The United States and South Korea have agreed on limiting the amount of steel entering the U.S. from South Korea and have set up absolute quotas on the various types of steel being imported. Once those quota limits have been met, steel imports from South Korea must stop. There will be no assessment of the steel retaliatory duties on South Korean steel. However, some of the categories for South Korean steel quotas have already filled.

[Click here](#) to find the bulletin on CBP's website addressing the steel quota bulletin.

The President did not extend the exemptions for aluminum retaliatory duties from South Korea. All shipments of aluminum mill products from South Korea will be assessed the 10% additional duty.

In the two proclamations, President Trump added that drawback claims on the retaliatory duties will not be accepted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). There was also clarification that U.S. made steel, which is exported and returned without being advanced in value or conditions, will not have the retaliatory duties assessed.

Here are the links to the Presidential Proclamations for both [Steel](#) and [Aluminum](#).

CBP Extends Reject Period for Trade Remedy Entries

As stated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in a recent CSMS message, CBP will have the ability to grant up to 300 days to reject entry summaries that are subject to new or coming tariffs. CBP will allow for up to 300 days, "with supervisory approval," for "rejecting entry summaries subject to import measures under Sections 201 and 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, and Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962." CBP also extended the time-period for rejecting anti-dumping/countervailing duty entry summaries to 300 days "with supervisory approval."

A rejection of an entry summary "will unsettle the liquidation date and transmit the entry summary back to the filer for action," according to CBP. CBP has also stated that, "the initial 90 days without supervisory approval (for non-AD/CVD entry summaries) and 60 days (for AD/CVD entry summaries) will remain effective."

This extended reject period will be on the entries with retaliatory duties on large residential washers and solar cells and modules under Section 201 from January, and Section 232 tariffs on steel and aluminum that took effect in March. Entries with the proposed Section 301 tariffs that may take place, along with any entries subject to anti-dumping duty and countervailing duty, will be allowed to be rejected up to the 300 days after the entry summary is submitted. The trade has requested an extended amount of time beyond 48 hours to respond to these rejects.

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FMC Investigating Carriers **Canceling Door Move** **Commitments**

With the challenges in several ports of finding trucking lift and capacity, some carriers are unilaterally canceling the final leg of door delivery commitments. Carriers are notifying customers that they cannot complete the final yard to customer destination leg of the cargo contract that they have agreed. Because of these cancellations, importers are finding themselves having to scramble to arrange the delivery from the terminal or rail yard on their own. Along with these last-minute notices, the carriers and terminals are charging while the trucking is being coordinated.

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is responding to importer complaints about the ocean carriers' unilateral actions. The FMC's Bureau of Enforcement began an "expedited inquiry" into the cancellations on April 20, which it announced April 23. Shipping lines will need to respond to the FMC's letters within 30 days.

[Click here](#) to find the notice of enquiry on the FMC's website.

The FMC will conduct an investigation and inquire about the importer's experience. In the meantime, problems like this should be brought to the attention of the FMC Office of Consumer Affairs and Dispute Resolution Service (CADRS). Carmichael can assist you in presenting your complaints.



By **Todd Boice**, President