



## Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

*Office of Monitoring and Enforcement  
Executive Office of the President*

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### **RECENT EVENTS**

#### **Rare Earths Panel Established**

On July 23, at the request of the United States, a dispute settlement panel was established to decide claims regarding China's export restraints on rare earths, tungsten and molybdenum. The U.S. request, along with similar requests by the European Union and Japan, came after consultations with China seeking to resolve the issue were unsuccessful. These specific restraint measures appear to be a part of a troubling industrial policy aimed at providing substantial competitive advantages for the Chinese at the expense of foreign manufacturers. As a leading global producer of these

#### **July Enforcement Update: United States Wins Electronic Payment Services Dispute with China**



**July 16** - United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk announced today that the United States has prevailed in a World Trade Organization (WTO) dispute regarding China's pervasive discrimination against U.S. suppliers of electronic payment services.

**"This decision will help U.S. companies and increase American jobs as a more efficient credit and debit payment system in China enables consumers to buy more goods, including quality, made-in-America products,"** said Ambassador Kirk. **"The WTO panel agrees that China's pervasive and discriminatory measures deny a level playing field to American service providers, which are world leaders in this sector. The panel also found that China has entrenched the market dominance of its own**

materials, China's export restraints give China the ability to provide important advantages to China's downstream producers, to the detriment of U.S. and foreign competitors.

**company, China Union Pay (CUP), and distorted competition in China to the detriment of U.S. providers. Open financial services markets are critical, and China should honor its WTO commitments and eliminate this discrimination."**

Read the rest of the release [here](#).

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### **Obama Administration Challenges China's Unfair Imposition of Duties on American-Made Automobiles**



**July 5** - United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk announced today that the United States is challenging China's imposition of antidumping and countervailing duties on more than \$3 billion in exports of American-produced automobiles. Specifically, the United States has requested dispute settlement consultations with China at the World Trade Organization (WTO) in an attempt to eliminate these unfair duties, which appear to represent yet another abuse of trade remedies by China.

**"As we have made clear, the Obama Administration will continue to fight to ensure that China does not misuse its trade laws and violate its international trade commitments to block exports of American-made products,"** Ambassador Kirk said. **"American auto workers and manufacturers deserve a level playing field and we are taking every step necessary to stand up for them. This is**

**the third time that the Obama Administration has challenged China's misuse of trade remedies."**

Read the rest of the release [here](#).

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**Statement by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in Response to Decision in Third Softwood Lumber Arbitration**

**July 18** - Today, the Office of the United States Trade Representative issued the following statement regarding a decision in the third softwood lumber arbitration dispute brought by the United States against Canada:

**"We are disappointed with the outcome of this latest arbitration under the Softwood Lumber Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada (SLA). Despite this result, we remain concerned that British Columbia provided publicly-owned timber harvested in its interior to softwood lumber producers for prices far below market value,"** said Nkenge Harmon, Deputy Assistant United States Trade Representative. **"And it is important to note that the tribunal did not sanction the pricing practices in British Columbia. Rather, as a result of a flawed approach to evaluating the evidence before it, the tribunal concluded that it was unable to find a conclusive link to action by the Government of Canada. The fair pricing of timber in British Columbia is in the strong interest of the United States and we will continue to monitor this closely.**

**"The United States has prevailed in two cases under the SLA. We continue to enforce them. The Obama Administration is committed to continue vigorously enforcing the SLA and other U.S. trade agreements. Although we remain disappointed in the result of this proceeding, we will continue to ensure that Canada abides by its obligations under the SLA."**

Read the rest of the release [here](#).

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8	9	10	11	12 DSB Special Meeting, first request for Rare Earths panel	13	14
15	16 China EPS report to be circulated	17	18 Consultations regarding China's challenge to CVD Duties	19	20	21
22	23 DSB Meeting, Rare Earths panel established	24	25 China appeal to GOES	26	27 EC Airbus 21.5 – third party submissions	28
29	30	31				

<b>Legend</b>	<b>Consultations</b>	<b>Panel</b>	<b>Appellate Body</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Other</b>
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Note: the calendar above is a projection of selected expected events and is subject to change.