



Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

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RECENT EVENTS

United States submits two nominees for consideration to fill vacancy on the Appellate Body

The United States nominated Thomas Graham and John Greenwald, two recognized and highly respected leaders in the field of international trade law with extensive government service, academic experience as well as private sector experience, to fill one of the two vacancies on the WTO Appellate Body. There has traditionally been one American on the Appellate Body. The WTO Members will select two new Appellate Body members from among four nominated candidates.

United States prevails in WTO dispute challenging discriminatory distilled spirits taxes

The WTO ruled in favor of the United States' challenge to the Philippines' excise taxes on imported distilled spirits. The Philippines levied taxes on imported distilled spirits, such as American whiskey, bourbon and gin, at significantly higher rates than on domestic distilled spirits. The United States joined

September Enforcement Update: China Enforcement Takes Center Stage in September

In September, enforcement actions against China were center stage as the United States prevailed in an historic win before the Appellate Body and brought a consultations request challenging Chinese anti-dumping and countervailing duties (AD/CVD) investigations of American chicken exports. These two efforts will support our workers and American companies engaged in trade with China.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Appellate Body found in favor of the United States in a dispute brought by China challenging the imposition of safeguard duties on imports of Chinese tires. President Obama imposed these duties on imports of certain passenger vehicle and light truck tires from China in 2009 to remedy the market disruption caused by a surge in those imports. The WTO's decision is the first time that the Appellate Body has upheld a safeguard action by any WTO Member.

These duties fell under a special safeguard mechanism agreed to by China when it joined the WTO. The volume of imported Chinese tires tripled between 2004 and 2008 while U.S. tire production declined by 26 percent and tire industry employment declined by 14 percent during the same period. As a result of the decision, the duties may remain in place until the remedy expires in September 2012. In 2011 alone, four tire companies have announced new investments exceeding \$500 million that will expand tire production in the United States and are expected to create several thousand new jobs in the industry.

This month the United States also filed a request for

forces with the EU in prevailing in this important case that will potentially impact a U.S. industry whose global exports exceed \$1 billion a year.

consultations challenging Chinese AD/CVD investigations of American chicken exports, investigations that do not appear to comply with WTO obligations. The duties imposed following the investigations could cause the U.S. poultry industry to lose \$1 billion in sales to China by the end of 2011 alone, in a sector accounting for more than 300,000 jobs.

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