



2022 NADEC ANNUAL EXPORT CONFERENCE



DATES: May 19-20, 2022

LOCATION:
**Marriott Washington at Metro
Center**

Wednesday, May 18

Members are encouraged to meet with their Members of Congress

Thursday, May 19

9:00am – 9:15am

Welcome

Shawn Levensen | *NADEC Chair*

9:15am – 9:30am

Break

9:30am – 10:30am

Room A: Trade Policy Update

Port Crisis in America: Causes, Affects, Solutions

Moderator: John Saylor, *Director, International Trade Group at Commonwealth Trading Partners, Inc./ Virginia/DC DEC*

Speakers:

Christopher Connor | *CEO American Association of Port Authorities*

Jay Schuler, *Founder of Richland IFC Located in Minnesota and North Dakota, Chairman of the North Dakota DEC*

Room B: Export Opportunities & Challenges

Exporting in Web 3.0: Navigate eCommerce, Metaverse, NFT's, Cryptocurrency, Blockchain & Virtual Reality

Moderator: W.E. DaCruz, *Cofounder, VGC Group/ Michigan DEC*

Speakers:

Naomi Jordan Cook, Cofounder at VGC Group
Courtney Sanders, Founder at Courtney Sanders.com
Adrian Viller, Online Business Development Director at IBT Online
Mack Hendricks, CEO of FlyBall

10:30am – 10:45am

Break

ROOM A: South American Trade Opportunities

Moderator: Alex Sanchez, President and CEO of Florida Bankers Association

Speakers:

Ambassador Alfonso Quinonez
Joselin Ramos, CEO of CBX Global

ROOM B: Exporting in Travel & Tourism, Education

Moderator: Fred Latuperissa, President at ExIm 20/20 Group, LLC/ California Inland Empire DEC

Speakers:

Koka Lakshman, Vice Chairman, EDC Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, San Jacinto, California
Nate Welch, President, Vermillion Chamber, South Dakota
Sandy Renner, Chair, FasTrack Global Expansion Solutions, Inc./ Minnesota DEC

12:00pm – 1:30pm

Lunch with Keynote Speaker

Moderator: David F. Day, Chairman, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation

**The Honorable Reta Jo Lewis, Esq.
President and Chair
Export-Import Bank of the United States**

A conversation between the new Chair of the EXIM Bank, Reta Jo Lewis, and NADEC's Trade Policy Chair, David Day, on the Bank's new policies, broader mission, and enhanced focus on small business.

1:40pm – 2:40pm

Room A: U.K. Open for Business: The Way Forward

Moderator: Urszula Wojciechowska, MBE., *Executive Director, Coalition of New England Companies for Trade, Massachusetts DEC*

Speakers:

Sarah Clegg, Head of Trade Policy, British Embassy

Tim Crouch, Director of Investment, North America, UK Department for International Trade (DIT)

Emanuel Adam, Chief Policy & Trade Officer, BritishAmerican Business.

Room B: Exporting to India

Moderator: David F. Day, Chairman, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation

Speakers:

Stacey Standley, *Formerly, the Managing Director of Sikland-Standley Ent Pvt Ltd. / Nevada DEC*

Samir Kapadia, *Chief Operating Officer and Principal at the Vogel Group*

2:40pm – 2:55pm

Break

2:55pm – 3:55pm

Room A: SME Resources for increasing exports-your educational institutional advantage

Moderator: Mark Ballam, *Managing Director at San Diego State University, Center for Advancing Global Business/ San Diego & Imperial DEC*

Topic 1: Understanding the Digital Trade Revolution: New tools for U.S. small businesses

Speaker: Simona Racek, *Getting to Global, San Diego & Imperial DEC*

Topic 2: Utilizing the educational institutional advantage

Speakers:

Jonathan Szucs, *Advanced Superabrasives, Inc.*

Tom Robinson, *X-Culture, North Carolina DEC*

Room B: U.S.- Africa Trade Relations: How to be part of the Economic Growth & Development on the “New Frontier”

Moderator: W.E. DaCruz, Cofounder, VGC Group/
Michigan DEC

Speakers:

Deniece Laurant-Mantey | Director for Africa, The
National Security Council, The White House

Akindele Akinyemi President & CEO at Global African
Business Association

Michael Sudarkas | CEO Africa Business Group, TBD
Ghana Investment Promotion Authority

3:55pm – 4:10pm

Break

4:10pm – 5:10pm

Room A: Southbound Trade Initiative

Ernesto Pinal, Managing Director, Export Optimizers/
Idaho DEC

Room B: Financing your Exporting Business

Moderator: Luke Lindberg, Executive Director of
Global Strategy, Innovation, and World Clinic,
Sanford Health/ South Dakota DEC

Speakers:

Scott Stevenson, Senior Vice President of Trade,
Bankers Association for Finance and Trade

Daniel Pische, National Director of Trade and
Finance, U.S. Small Business Administration

Aerek Stephens, Head of Regional Export Promotion
Program, Export-Import Bank of the United States

5:10pm – 5:35pm

Speed Networking

Friday, May 20

9:00am – 9:15am

Welcome

Shawn Levsen | *NADEC Chair*

9:15am – 10:15am

Presentations to DEC of the Year & Executive Secretary of the Year

10:15am – 10:30am

Break

10:30am – 11:30am

Room A: Exporting to Island Nations

Moderator: Elizabeth Chan, *CEO, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation*

Speakers:

Luke Lindberg, *Executive Director of Global Strategy, Innovation, and World Clinic, Sanford Health/ South Dakota DEC*

Elizabeth Chan, *CEO, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation*

Ambassador (Ret.) Joseph J. Cella, *Immediate past Ambassador to Fiji*

Phillip Mendiola-Long, *Hawaii Pacific Export Council*

Ambassador John Hennesey-Niland, *Current U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Palau*

Room B: Cybersecurity & the Global Impact on Trade

Moderator: Scott Blacklin, *Principal & CEO, Blacklin Associates, LLC/ Virginia-DC DEC*

Speakers:

Dr. Oz Erdem | *Linqs Inc, Past NADEC Chair*

Shalon Simmons, President, Secure Global Solutions, LLC

Aaron Amundson, *Director of the Information Technology Control Division at the Bureau of Industry and Security*

11:30am – 1:00pm Lunch with Keynote Speaker

Former Commerce Deputy Secretary Karen Dunn Kelley

1:00pm – 2:00pm Room A: Supply Chain Opportunities to Increase Your Export

Moderator: Shawn Levsen | *NADEC Chair International Sales Manager, UPS*

Speakers:

Jess Dankert, VP of Supply Chain, Retail Industry Leaders Association

Kristopher Denzel, Director of Government Affairs, DHL Express

Gerd Uitdewilligen, Director of International Sales, Emerson Cargo Solutions

Room B: DEC Engagement & Orientation

Moderator: Anne Burkett, Executive Director, NAITA/Alabama DEC

Speakers:

Brenda Stelly, *President, Oil Center Research International LLC / Louisiana DEC*

Sandy Renner, *Chair, FasTrack Global Expansion Solutions, Inc. / Minnesota DEC*

Tee Persad, *Attorney, Mediator & Business Consultant, CPLS, P.A. / Central-North Florida DEC*

2:00pm – 2:15pm Break

2:15pm – 3:15pm	Room A: Exporting to Challenging Markets (Middle East) Moderator: Sheriah Johnson, <i>Trade Compliance Manager, NCR Corporation/ Georgia DEC</i> Speakers: Nate LaMar, <i>Associate Director of Regional Initiatives, Ball State University</i> Kelly Watkins, <i>President, Expressive Concepts/ Kentucky DEC</i>
	Room B: Trade Policy & Global Markets Update Commerce Department in 2022 & Beyond Speaker: Scott Blacklin, <i>Principal & CEO, Blacklin Associates, LLC/ Virginia-DC DEC</i>
3:15pm – 3:30pm	Break
3:30pm – 4:30pm	Using the DEC to Reach Underserved Communities Fred Latuperissa, <i>President at ExIm 20/20 Group, LLC/ California Inland Empire DEC</i>
4:30pm – 4:45pm	Break
4:45pm – 5:10pm	Small Business Success Story
5:10pm – 5:30pm	CLOSING REMARKS