

Insert DEC Name District Export Council

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION
2021**

*Insert Your
DEC's Logo*



MAP OF THE DISTRICT EXPORT COUNCILS



MISSION & HISTORY OF THE DECS

Working together with the local CS field offices, the mission of the DECs is to facilitate development of an effective export assistance network, support the expansion of export opportunities for U.S. companies, serve as a communication link between the business community and CS and assist in coordinating the activities of trade assistance partners to leverage available resources.

The DECs support their mission through funds that are generated locally, without any government appropriations, and follow the general guidelines in the [DEC Policies and Procedures Manual](#). The DECs may not raise funds for profit, or represent the U.S. Government.

In 1960, the President asked the Secretary of Commerce to enlist the efforts of the U.S. business community in increasing export opportunities for American firms. Responding to this challenge, the National Export Expansion Council was formed.

In response to the National Export Expansion Council recommendations and to stimulate greater business participation in the national export expansion effort, the President directed the Secretary of Commerce to establish the District Export Councils throughout the United States.

Under the authority of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the 41 DECs were established by the Secretary of Commerce in 1974. Approximately 1,000 business and trade experts were appointed to serve on the newly formed the DECs. Since then, the number of the DECs and DEC membership has been expanded to better meet the needs of the growing number of U.S. exporters.

Under the Secretary's guidelines, the District Export Councils were specifically created to promote exports in their local communities. The DECs are not advisory committees and are not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). As a volunteer group, the DECs do not receive government appropriations or compensation. They also do not have access to classified information and therefore, do not have security clearances.

DISTRICT EXPORT COUNCILS (DECS) BUSINESS LEADERS HELPING LOCAL COMPANIES EXPORT SINCE 1973

The District Export Councils (DECs) are organizations of leaders from the local business community, appointed by successive Secretaries of Commerce, whose knowledge of international business provides a source of professional advice for local firms.

For 40 years the DECs have served the United States by assisting companies with their local communities' exports, thus promoting our country's economic growth and creating new and higher paying jobs for their communities. Closely affiliated with the Commerce Department's U.S. Commercial Service, the 61 DECs in 8 regions combine the energies of nearly 1,500 exporters and export service providers who support the U.S. Government's export promotion efforts throughout the country.

The DECs volunteer their time to sponsor and participate in numerous trade promotion activities. They also supply specialized expertise to small and medium sized businesses that are interested in exporting. Each DEC's Executive Committee works with the membership to create an annual strategic plan that involves all members in mission fulfillment.



Each DEC has a maximum of 35 appointed members, which should reflect the diversity of the local business community, and be distributed geographically across the DEC service area. At least 50 percent must be exporters from a manufacturing or service industry. Other members can include companies and organizations that support exporters, representatives of local and state government, trade organizations and associations.

The local CS field office director or his or her designee serves as Executive Secretary and is a non-voting ex officio Member. He/she may, at his or her discretion, select one trade-related position in a state or local government to be a standing non-voting ex officio Member to facilitate coordination between state, local, and federal resources and the DEC. The Executive Secretary and this representative, if selected, are the only ex officio members.

Notices requesting applications for nomination are placed in the Federal Register and elsewhere. A fair and transparent review and appointment process is conducted within the Department of Commerce, and the Secretary makes the final decision on all membership and leadership appointments. Members are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce to staggered four-year terms. [Please see the DEC Policies and Procedures Manual for more details.](#)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT EXPORT COUNCILS, INC. (NADEC)

PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH EXPORTS



Mission

The National Association of District Export Councils increases awareness and understanding of the importance of exports to the US economy through education, legislative outreach and engagement with DEC's and other relevant stakeholders.

Purpose

The NADEC contributes leadership and international trade expertise to complement the U.S. Commercial Service's export promotion efforts. The NADEC has 4 committees: Trade Policy and Legislative Affairs, Outreach and Education, Communications and Events. The NADEC develops and communicates plans for all major DEC initiatives. The NADEC works to build consensus to address important issues related to international trade, exporting, and export promotion, all ensuring a consistent effort to accomplish the mission of the DEC's. Learn more at usaexporter.org.

Corporate Status

The NADEC is a non-profit corporation that maintains a 501(c)(6) federal income tax status. For more information see the [NADEC's Bylaws](#).

Board of Directors

The NADEC consists of 16 District Export Council (DEC) board members, who have been elected to the NADEC by the DEC members from each of the eight U.S. Commercial Service Networks. Four more members are selected by the Board of Directors from the DEC membership. These twenty people are the regular voting members and serve on the Board of Directors for 2 year terms. The 5 officers for the NADEC include a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Communications Officer.

Advisory Board

The NADEC's Advisory Board increases awareness and understanding of the importance of exports to the U.S. economy and reaches audiences beyond the local DEC's and government officials. Members and officers of this Board are non-voting and appointed by the NADEC Board of Directors for a term of four years, renewable once for a second term.

Conference

The NADEC holds an annual conference that brings together the local councils which provides invaluable education and networking opportunities. Topics such as trade policy, barriers, agreements, country & industry specific updates and other trade issues are discussed. Yearly awards and recognitions are presented at the conference. These awards include the DEC of the year, presented by the U.S. Commercial Service, and Executive Secretary of the year, presented by the NADEC.

Website

The NADEC's website is a valuable resource for current information. This resource is often updated with national and local trade related events. Please see "What's Available on the Website..." on the following page or usaexporter.org for more information.

Newsletter

Periodically, the Communications Committee emails newsletters to all the DEC members informing them of events, conference information, webinars and more.

Partnerships

The NADEC forms partnerships with various international trade related organizations to promote common trade initiatives.

Bylaws of the National Association of District Export Councils, Inc.

The Bylaws outline the important aspects of the non-profit corporation, mission, regular membership, Board of Directors, meetings and committees.

What's Available on the Website...

[Access your legislators](#)

[Export Council and State Trade Information](#)

[NADEC Mission](#)

[NADEC Board of Directors](#)

[Executive Committee](#)

[Members](#)

[Advisory Board](#)

[Partners](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Committees](#)

[DEC Events](#)

[National](#)

[Local](#)

[DEC Regions](#)

[Local DEC's](#)

[Government Agencies](#)

[US Commercial Service](#)

[International Trade Administration](#)

[US Export Assistance Center](#)

[Resources](#)

[Trade Articles](#)

[Webinars](#)

[Access a Member Portal](#)



COMMITTEES

Trade Policy and Legislative Affairs

The mission of the Trade Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee is to identify, support, and promote U.S. trade policies that will result in an increase in U.S. exports, enhancement of the competitive position of U.S. exporters, and improvement in the U.S. balance of trade. The mission also includes identification, support and advocacy of key trade legislative issues which impact American exporters (particularly small to medium-sized exporters), the U.S. export competitive position, International Trade Administration, the U.S. Commercial Service and the legislative activities of the local DEC's.

Outreach and Education

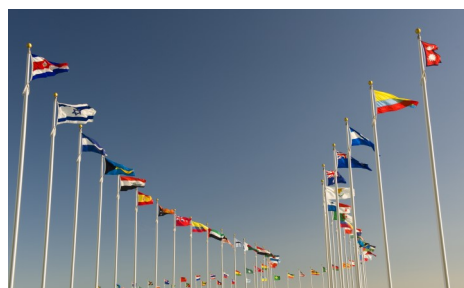
The mission of the Outreach and Education Committee is to communicate with local DEC's regarding activities engaged in by the National DEC, to be a resource for sharing Best Practices among the DEC's, to support the efforts of U.S. Export Assistance Centers and to provide information to the public regarding trade and exporting.

Communications

The NADEC Communications Committee communicates essential international business and trade information to local DEC's, allowing American businesses to make informed decisions and increase their export activities.

Events

The primary mission of the NADEC Events Committee is to plan and execute the NADEC Annual Export Conference, traditionally held during World Trade Month in May. The Events Committee may also be used to plan and execute other events as directed by the NADEC Executive Committee.



How to Get Involved with the NADEC

[Join a NADEC committee](#)

[Run for a position on the NADEC](#)

[Speak at the conference](#)

[Fill out a Member Skills Inventory](#)

[Develop a NADEC partnership](#)

[Suggest speakers for the conference](#)

[Attend the annual conference](#)

[Become a mentor](#)

[Become a NADEC sponsor](#)

[Conduct a panel for the conference](#)



Thank you for being a part of this crucial export network of councils!

Insert name/logo here **Export Council**

MISSION *Insert here*

Insert information here

MENTORING

Insert information here

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Insert information here

Insert name here **COMMITTEE**

Purpose: *Insert information here*

Goals: *Insert information here*

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Insert name/logo here DISTRICT EXPORT COUNCIL

MEMBER DIRECTORY

CHAIR-- *Insert Name*

Title
Company
Email Address

VICE CHAIR-- *Insert Name*

Title
Company
Email Address

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY--*Insert Name*

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TREASURER--*Insert Name*

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Insert name/logo here **District Export Council**

Insert Year **2021 Strategic Plan Summary**

Insert your DEC contact information

Insert your DEC website

Insert Your DEC Social Media symbols

Insert your DEC logo