



NADEC ANNUAL EXPORT CONFERENCE



DATES: May 19-20, 2022

LOCATION: Marriott
Washington at Metro Center

Wednesday, May 18, 2022 Members are encouraged to meet with their Members of Congress

Thursday, May 19, 2022

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*

Speaker: Christopher Connor | *CEO American Association of Port Authorities*

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 | *VGC Group*
Courtney Sanders | *TBD IBT Online*

10:30am – 10:45am

Break

10:45am – 11:45am

ROOM A: South American Trade Opportunities

*Mariano Parlato, Country Manager at DISS/
Puerto Rico DEC*

ROOM B: Exporting in Travel & Tourism, Education

Fred Latuperissa, President at ExIm 20/20 Group, LLC/ California Inland Empire DEC
Sandy Renner, Chair, FasTrack Global Expansion Solutions, Inc./ Minnesota DEC

12:00pm – 1:30pm

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

1:40pm – 2:40pm

Room A: U.S. – U.K., E.U. Exporting post Brexit

*Urszula Wojciechowska, Senior Consultant,
Global Business Alliance of New England/
Massachusetts DEC*

Room B: Exporting to India

Stacey Standley,

2:40pm – 2:55pm

Break

2:55pm – 3:55pm

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

Mark Ballam, Managing Director at San Diego State University, Center for Advancing Global Business/ Imperial Valley California 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

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

5:10pm – 5:35pm **Speed Networking**

Friday, May 20, 2022

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: Export Opportunities & Challenges

Supply Chain Opportunities to Increase Your Exports
Shawn Levsen | *NADEC Chair*
International Sales Manager, UPS

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,

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

1:00pm – 2:00pm Room A: Exporting to Island Nations

David Day, *Attorney and Chairman, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation/ Hawaii DEC*

Elizabeth Chan, *CEO, Global Risk Mitigation Foundation*

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

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