

# International Affairs and Trade March Newsletter

Welcome to this month's newsletter from the International Affairs and Trade team at the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

### **Special Announcements**



#### Candy Gage is the New STEP Director

The GO-Biz International Affairs and Trade team is thrilled to announce the hire of Candy Gage as our new Export Program Manager. In that capacity, Candy will serve as Director of the California State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) in future funding rounds with the US Small Business Administration. Candy will administer STEP funds in collaboration with the GO-Biz Deputy Director, <a href="Emily Desai">Emily Desai</a>; our regionally-focused Trade and Investment Representatives; and <a href="Mariana Guevara">Mariana Guevara</a>, who will continue to support the STEP program and work directly with small businesses. Candy will also focus on the <a href="Export Training Network">Export Training Network</a> and collaborate with organizations across the state to create a pipeline of export-ready small businesses.

Candy brings significant experience to this position. As Director of the Fresno Center for International Trade Development (CITD), she was part of the original, core team that brought STEP to California. In that capacity, she designed, developed, and managed more than \$20 million in grants, contracts, and export training programs encompassing numerous industries. During her tenure at the CITD, Candy successfully recruited and delivered international trade missions as well as virtual and catalog trade shows in Mexico, Central America, Asia, and Europe. In partnership with the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association and California Department of Food and Agriculture, Candy coordinated 175 international buying missions in California. Candy's hard work and perseverance led the CITD to receive the President's "E" Award for excellence in export assistance twice. The award is presented by the U.S. Department of Commerce "to persons, firms, and organizations engaged in the marketing of products

who make significant contributions to the expansion of the export trade of the United States." Candy brings extensive experience building long-term collaborative partnerships for state, national, and international businesses. These partnerships include work with the US Department of Agriculture, US Department of Commerce, US Department of Education, Federal Drug Administration, Small Business Administration, and US Economic Development Administration. Since 2001, Candy has served on the Northern California District Export Council. Candy received her master's degree in business from California State University, Fresno and has served as adjunct faculty at Fresno State and Fresno Pacific University.



# CalMatters Op-Ed by Dee Dee Myers: R&D Investments Drive California Innovation

GO-Biz Director Dee Dee Myers contributed to CalMatters to explain how the <u>legislative package</u> recently signed by Governor Newsom supports California's innovation economy, particularly by restoring the state's research and development tax credit. Click <u>here</u> to read the full op-ed, or see below for an excerpt:

"The governor recently signed a package of bills that will boost California's continuing economic recovery by protecting frontline workers who are impacted by COVID-19 while also investing in those businesses that are creating jobs and providing essential goods and services to our communities.

This legislative package, developed in partnership with the Legislature amid the Omicron surge, underscores the important steps California has taken to protect workers and businesses over the last two years since COVID-19 wreaked havoc on our economy. In particular, it restores the tax credit for investments in research and development, including basic research, that are the foundation of California's unmatched innovation economy.

California outpaces all other states in research and development spending, accounting for more than one-fifth of the total U.S. R&D investments and nearly 30% of U.S. patents.

These investments helped create many of the incredible, life-changing technologies we now take for granted - smartphones, new pharmaceutical treatments, manufacturing breakthroughs, and even advancements in agriculture and farming, invented here in California..."



#### **Ongoing STEP Funding Opportunities**

The California State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) continues to fund eligible California small businesses for export activities through May 2022. Businesses can apply for reimbursement grant funding through STEP in order to initiate or expand export activities. This can include trade show/mission attendance, translation services, and much more. Click <a href="here">here</a> to apply.

### **Upcoming GO-Biz Events**



#### Spotlight on California Webinar for Nordic Smart Mobility and ZEV Businesses

March 22, 2022 at 6 am PST (3 pm CET) Smart Mobility, Zero Emission Vehicles, and Advanced Transportation

Register for this event here

GO-Biz and the US Commercial Service are co-hosting this *free* webinar to help Nordic companies land in the Golden State. California is a global leader for smart mobility, zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), and advanced transportation. Join this webinar to hear from state officials and innovation leaders about opportunities to grow your mobility business in California and resources to help you get started. Please contact Maria Onorato at maria.onorato@gobiz.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



# California Pavilion at FIDAE Aerospace and Defense Trade Show

April 5-10, 2022 Santiago, Chile Aerospace and Defense

Register for this event here by March 16, 2022

GO-Biz is organizing a California Pavilion within the USA Pavilion at FIDAE 2022, the leading aerospace and defense trade show in Latin America. The show will build on its well-earned reputation to present a vital and growing international aerospace event that addresses the full scope of commercial, military, and space interests. The 2018 edition hosted 500+ exhibitors from 50 nations whose products and services, including 138 aircraft on the flight line, attracted 120,000+ professional visitors, including 525 delegations from 40 countries. Organizers anticipate even more exhibitors and delegate visitors in 2022, all looking for extra insight and access to decision-makers and buyers in this dynamic and influential marketplace. We invite interested California small businesses to submit their application to exhibit within our California Pavilion. Please contact Diana Dominguez at diana.dominguez@gobiz.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for businesses who qualify for STEP funding.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.

#### California-China Virtual Trade Mission

April-May 2022 China Medical Devices, Beauty and Personal Care Products, and Food Processing Machinery



As a California China Trade and Investment Network (CTIN) member, the City of Sacramento China Trade Office has teamed up with GO-Biz and the US Commercial Service to offer California businesses a virtual trade mission designed to link California exporters directly with buyers, potential partners, and distributors in the Chinese market through one-on-one online matchmaking meetings. Opportunity sectors include medical devices, beauty and personal care products, and food processing machinery. Please contact Henan Li at henan.li@gobiz.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application.

Click here for event flyers with further details.

# **Upcoming Partner Events**



International Buyer Introductions and International Market Counseling at Natural Products Expo West

US Commercial Service

March 8-12, 2022 Anaheim Convention Center Natural, Organic, and Health Products

US exhibitors at the show may participate in these complimentary programs. See below for registration details.

From raw ingredients to finished products, Natural Products Expo West (NPEW) continues to be the leading trade show in the natural, organic, and health products industry, attracting over 80,000 industry professionals and 3,100 exhibits to the Anaheim Convention Center. The following complimentary programs are available to US exhibitors with products or services that are at least 51% US content. International Buyer Introductions are being conducted by the US Commercial Service with recruited buyers from Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico; participants will be able to engage in buyer–requested meetings before, during, or after the show. International Market Counseling is available through one–on–one virtual or in–person meetings with Commercial Specialists working in US Embassies and Consulates in Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico; participants will have the opportunity to discuss current market conditions and opportunities for their business in these countries (countries subject to change and limited availability). For more information about these programs please contact Tony Michalski at tony.michalski@trade.gov or Daniel Bruner at daniel.bruner@trade.gov. Interested businesses may also stop by the Global Business Center during the event, which is located on the second level of the Anaheim Convention Center in Room 204C.



#### Smart Mobility Moves the World: Virtual B2B Expo

US Commercial Service

March 14–25, 2022 40+ foreign markets (see <u>event website</u> for complete list) Smart Mobility, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Machine Learning, and Autonomous Maritime Technology

Register for this event here by March 11, 2022

Join the US Commercial Service for the world's first 24-hour, 2-week global networking event. This event will help businesses create dynamic relationships and identify potential export sales immediately with pre-screened foreign government procurement representatives, buyers, distributors, partners, and multipliers. US businesses will also virtually connect with US Embassy industry experts to gain strategic intelligence and learn first-hand about real time market developments in-country. If your business operates in one of the relevant opportunity sectors and you want to sell your products/services or increase your market share internationally, this event is for you. Please contact Alexandra Machetanz at alexandra.machetanz@trade.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



# Complying with US Export Controls: An Interactive Online Learning Seminar

Bureau of Industry and Security and the Southern California District Export Council

March 15-18, 2022

Register for this event here by March 10, 2022

In partnership with the District Export Council of Southern California, and utilizing the power of virtual, interactive learning tools, the US Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) is offering its popular "Complying with US Export Controls" seminar as an online program. This interactive course delivers critical information for compliance with the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The seminar will be a live event; an opportunity to see and hear BIS specialists present, have your questions answered, and participate in interactive exercises to expand your regulatory and compliance knowledge. Experienced BIS specialists will deliver the training in four daily, three-hour sessions. The information covered will include the same topics typically covered in the two-day in-person programs: scope of the EAR, how to classify items for export, how to apply for an export license, understanding and using license exceptions, deemed exports, de minimis and direct product rules, export clearances, export enforcement, and developing an export management and compliance program. This event will also feature a guest speaker from the US Census Bureau to discuss the Automated Export System. Please contact bissupport@decsocal.org with any questions regarding registration for this event. For more information on how the program will work or the topics to be covered, please contact the BIS Western Regional Office at (949) 660-0144, (408) 998-8806, or by completing this form. Participation are subsidized for businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



#### Webinar: India's Renewable Energy and Smart Grid Market Outlook

International Trade Administration and Seamless

March 23, 2022 at 8 am India Renewable Energy

Register for this event here

Join Seamless and the US Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration for a free webinar that will introduce US firms to the rapidly evolving market for renewable energy, energy storage, and smart grid applications in India, provide insight from experts on best practices and policies to support deployment of renewable energy and smart grid technologies, enable participants to gain market insights, solidify business strategies, make industry contacts, and advance specific projects in India, and share which technologies India's key energy stakeholders believe are in high demand. India is one of the world's fastest–growing economies and is home to more than one billion people, making its energy demands significant. With an installed capacity of 103.05 gigawatts as of 2021, India is also one of the fastest–growing markets for renewable energy. Despite fossil fuels still accounting for 60 percent of its energy mix, India has ambitious goals to reverse the trend over the next decade, making it an attractive market for US businesses.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



#### Hong Kong Pitchbook for US Medical Technologies

US Commercial Service

March-April 2022 Medical Devices and Healthcare Technology

Register for this event here by March 25, 2022

The US Commercial Service is recruiting US companies to be included in this pitchbook, which will be promoted directly to Hong Kong's leading medical device and healthcare product distributors and purchasers. Each featured business will receive a free customized International Market Check Report, which will include direct feedback from Hong Kong-based companies on the market potential of their product or service. Full matchmaking services are also available for participating firms who want to arrange direct, one-on-one meetings with potential partners. Target sectors include senior care, rehabilitation, pain treatment, brain and cognitive-related diseases treatment and assessment, oncology, heart and vascular treatment, joint treatment, and digital health solutions. Please contact Natalie Hatour at natalie.hatour@trade.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for businesses who qualify for STEP funding; GO-Biz is supporting up to 5 STEP-eligible California businesses focused on healthcare technologies to participate in this program.



#### Aerospace & Defense Supplier Summit (A&DSS)

BCI Aerospace

April 11-13, 2022 Seattle, WA Aerospace and Defense

Register for this event here before all spaces are filled.

This is a supply chain event that brings together aerospace and defense primes, tier suppliers, and contract–manufacturers. Suppliers and service providers, as well as engineering, procurement, supply chain, fabrication, and commodity teams, will meet through pre–arranged one–on–one meetings. The 2021 virtual A&DSS brought together 1,000 delegates from 550+companies representing 25 countries, and each company landed an average of 14 pre–arranged meetings. Please contact Diana Dominguez at diana.dominguez@gobiz.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs up to \$1,000 USD may be subsidized for businesses who qualify for STEP funding.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



#### California Pavilion at Cosmoprof Worldwide Bologna

Bologna Fiere

April 28-May 1, 2022 Bologna, Italy Beauty and Cosmetics

Register for this event here before all spaces are filled.

The California Trade Alliance is organizing a California Pavilion at Cosmoprof Bologna 2022 in order to help participating California businesses increase their overseas sales at the largest business–to–business (B2B) beauty show in the world. Key opportunity sectors include skincare, color cosmetics, natural/organic beauty, men's grooming, nail care, and bath/bath accessories. Exhibiting with the California Pavilion includes full back wall graphics, high–intensity lighting, custom furniture, shared closet space, and a shared California lounge with meeting tables. For more information visit caltradealliance.org or contact Kimberly Pederson at kimberly@caltraddealliance.org. Participation costs up to \$1,500 USD are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



US Commercial Service

May 4–6, 2022 India Environmental Tech

Register for this event here by March 15, 2022

Join the US Commercial Service for a virtual trade mission promoting US pollution control solutions exporters. The mission will focus on environmental technology subsectors related to air quality monitoring, indoor air quality, weather forecasting, and pollution control – all key issues in India impacting environmental and human health, as well as economic development. The virtual event will showcase live panels featuring state and local government officials, industry leaders, and senior officials from the US Embassy in Delhi and US Consulates from across India. Participating US companies will be able to gain market insights, make industry contacts, meet with government agencies, solidify business strategies, advance specific projects, identify potential partners and buyers, and participate in virtual introductions. They will also have the opportunity to attend customized business–to–business (B2B) matchmaking appointments in India with pre–screened potential buyers, agents, distributors, and partners. Please contact Haisum Shah at haisum.shah@trade.gov or Jing Liu at jing.liu@trade.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application.

Click here for an event website with further details.



# Minority Business-Focused Trade Mission to Italy, Spain, and Portugal

International Trade Administration

May 15-21, 2022 Italy, Spain, and Portugal ICT, Safety and Security Tech, Environmental Tech, and Energy

Register for this event here by March 25, 2022

The goal of this executive-led trade mission is to connect minority US businesses and trade associations in the ICT, safety and security technology, environmental technology, and energy sectors with pre-screened business prospects in these Southern European markets. Participants will have the opportunity to receive market insights from US International Trade Administration experts and US companies already operating within the region. They will also conduct appointments with pre-screened potential buyers, agents, distributors, and joint venture partners, as well as with local government officials and industry experts, where applicable. This mission is being organized by the US Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. Please contact Fernando Jimenez at <a href="mailto:fernando.jimenez@trade.gov">fernando.jimenez@trade.gov</a> with any questions regarding the event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for <a href="mailto:STEP funding">STEP funding</a>.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.

#### **WUSATA Pavilion at ANTAD Trade Show**



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

May 16-20, 2022 Expo Guadalajara, Mexico Food and Hospitality

Register for this event here by April 1, 2022

The Western US Agricultural and Trade Association (WUSATA) invites businesses in the food and hospitality sectors to join their pavilion at Expo ANTAD Alimentaria, Mexico's largest retail trade show. Expo ANTAD has become the largest food industry exhibition in Mexico – with 37,000+ visitors and 1,700+ exhibitors – and is the ideal forum for international exhibitors to showcase their premium products to quality buyers, importers, and industry experts. Participating businesses will be provided with a kiosk, kiosk signage, an interpreter, and a chair as part of the WUSATA Pavilion, which will be placed in a premium location within the USA Pavilion. Please contact Josh Eddy at josh.eddy@cdfa.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application. This activity is also eligible for partial reimbursement through WUSATA's FundMatch Program (see Grant & Funding Opportunities section below for details).

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



#### Clean EDGE Asia Business Development Mission

US Commercial Service and Clean EDGE Asia

June 6-10, 2022 Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Philippines (optional) Energy

Register for this event here by April 1, 2022

Clean EDGE (Enhancing Development and Growth Through Clean Energy) Asia and the US Commercial Service's International Trade Administration have organized this event to introduce US businesses to Southeast Asia's dynamic and rapidly evolving clean energy market. The mission will enable businesses and trade associations to gain market insights, make industry contacts, solidify business strategies, advocate for enabling policies, and advance specific projects, with the goal of increasing US exports to this region. Participants will have the opportunity to participate in networking receptions, meet with national and regional government officials, chambers of commerce, and business groups, and conduct one-on-one business appointments with pre-screened potential buyers, agents, distributors, and joint venture partners. Please contact Victoria Yue at victoria.yue@trade.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding; interested applicants should apply for ICEP funding and note their interest in this event in their application.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.



#### Enlit Africa 2022

US Commercial Service and Power Africa

June 7–9, 2022 Cape Town, South Africa Energy and Water Technology

Register for this event here by May 30, 2022

The US Commercial Service is partnering with Power Africa to recruit US energy and water technology companies, along with international buying delegations from Sub-Saharan Africa, to attend Enlit Africa 2022. Formerly PowerGen Africa – African Utility Week, Enlit Africa 2022 is the leading conference and trade exhibition for African power, energy, and water professionals. The Corporate Executive Office (CEO) Program is available to qualified US businesses that are seeking to enter or expand their share of the Sub-Saharan Africa energy market. It offers a unique, cost-effective way for these businesses to attend the show and benefit from pre-scheduled meetings and other value-added support services. Please contact Jonathan Zeigler at jonathan.zeigler@gobiz.ca.gov with any questions regarding this event. Participation costs are subsidized for California businesses who qualify for STEP funding.

Click here for an event flyer with further details.

Are you hosting an event that you would like to feature in this newsletter?

Please email gobiz.intltrade@gobiz.ca.gov

# **Training Opportunities & Informational Resources**

#### Trade

Resources & Tools on the GO-Biz Website // A variety of helpful resources can be found on the GO-Biz website. This includes previous newsletters, forms for event promotion and delegation visits, and video sets that aim to assist businesses who are initiating or expanding their export activities.

#### Investment

<u>California Business Comeback Guide</u> // This comprehensive guide to incentive programs, grants, and funding resources for businesses operating in California was compiled by the Business Investment Services team (CaIBIS).

<u>California Climate Investments Newsletter</u> // <u>California Climate Investments</u> is a statewide initiative that puts billions of cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. Their monthly newsletter includes helpful information such as recent announcements, funding opportunities, and other resources for businesses in relevant sectors.

# **Grant & Funding Opportunities**

#### Trade

<u>Western US Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) FundMatch Program</u> // California's membership in WUSATA allows qualified small food businesses the ability to expand international marketing budgets for a variety of activities. The FundMatch program supports up to 50 percent on reimbursement of promotional expenditures related to trade shows, labeling, advertising, retail promotions, and much more. Visit the <u>WUSATA website</u> or email Josh Eddy at josh.eddy@cdfa.ca.gov to learn more.

Market Development Cooperator Program (MDCP) // MDCP, the International Trade

Administration's (ITA) most successful export assistance program, will be accepting applications from non-profit industry groups through May 13, 2022. Successful applicants will receive up to \$300,000 in federal funding for innovative and sustainable projects that address trade barriers, enhance industry competitiveness, and generate exports that create or sustain US jobs. Past MDCP grant recipients have generated over \$334 in exports for every \$1 of ITA funding. Visit the ITA website for more details or to request an MDCP eligibility check for your organization.

#### Investment

Research and Development (R&D) Tax Credit // Governor Newsom recently signed a package of bills that will boost California's continuing economic recovery by investing in businesses that are creating jobs and providing essential goods and services to our communities. This legislative package, developed in partnership with the Legislature, restores the tax credit for investments in research and development, including basic research, that are the foundation of California's unmatched innovation economy. Foreign-owned business may qualify for this income tax credit if they paid for or incurred qualified research expenses while conducting research activity in California. Qualifying research expenses include wages, supplies, and contract research costs.

California Competes Tax Credit (CCTC) & Grant Program (CCGP) // These tax credits and grants are available to businesses regardless of size, industry, or location. Businesses must create a minimum of 500 new full-time jobs, invest a minimum of \$10M in facility construction/renovation, and/or create jobs or make investments in an area of high unemployment and/or high poverty in order to be eligible. The current open application period will end on March 28, 2022. There will be three informational webinars for interested businesses on March 9, 17, and 22, 2022.

### Other Resources from Our Partners

Click <u>here</u> for a list of our state and federal export assistance partners available by region.

Select any of the icons below to access that resource.











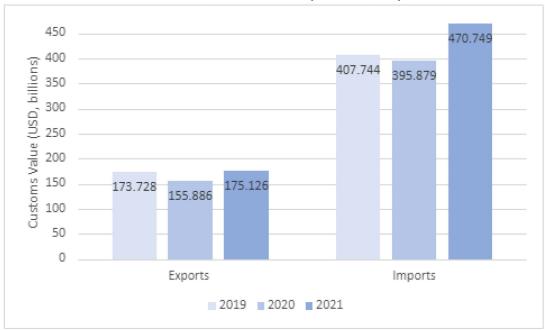
# California's International Trade by the Numbers

This information was compiled using the most recent trade data from the US Census Bureau.

#### Fast Facts: 2021

- ~ The top export destinations for California were Mexico, Canada, China, Japan, and South Korea.
- ~ The top import markets for California were China, Mexico, Canada, South Korea, and Vietnam.
- ~ California's top exports were computer and electronic products, machinery (excluding electrical), chemicals, transportation equipment, and agricultural products.
- ~ State export and import volumes increased in comparison to both 2019 and 2020. Exports increased by under 1 percent compared to 2019 and 12 percent compared to 2020, while imports increased by 15 percent compared to 2019 and nearly 19 percent compared to 2020.

### Monthly Economic Snapshot: California Year-over-Year Exports and Imports

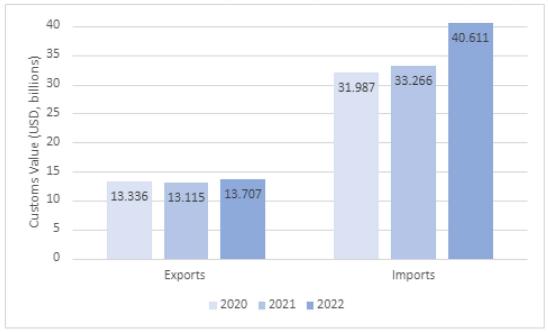


#### Fast Facts: January 2022

- ~ The top five export destinations for California were Mexico, Canada, China, South Korea, and Japan.
- ~ California was the state of destination for 16.3 percent of national imports in January 2022, a very slight decrease from 16.4 percent in December 2021.
- $\sim$  California's share of national exports increased from 9 percent in December 2021 to 9.3 percent in January 2022. The state's year-over-year share of national exports also declined at a

rate of nearly 9 percent, from 10.2 percent in January 2021 to 9.3 percent in January 2022. ~ State export and import volumes in January 2022 increased in comparison to both January 2020 and January 2021. Exports increased by 2.7 percent compared to 2020 and 4.5 percent compared to 2021, while imports increased by 26.9 percent compared to 2020 and 20 percent compared to 2021.

Monthly Economic Snapshot: California Year-over-Year Exports and Imports for the Month of January



# California Small Business Export Success Stories

Hundreds of California small businesses have successfully utilized the State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) to initiate or expand their export activities. Visit the link below to learn more!

To see testimonials from California small businesses, click here

Do you have a California small business success story to share on our website? If so, please share your success story for consideration:

Share a California small business export success story

# Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Success Stories

Visit our new resource showcasing international businesses! This tool can be used to view profiles and testimonials from foreign firms who have invested in California. Click <u>here</u> to access

this resource.



Do you have an international business success story to share on our website? If so, please share your success story for consideration:

Share an international business success story

Click <u>here</u> to subscribe to this newsletter Send questions or feedback to gobiz.intltrade@gobiz.ca.gov

Contact the GO-Biz Service Desk











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