



# NCBFAA

The National Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of America, Inc.

## *News Release*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 21, 2015

**CONTACT:** Geoffrey C. Powell / 202.466.0222

Cody Dietrich / 202.482.9087

barbara reilly / 202.466.0222

### **National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Inc. and International Trade Administration Sign Strategic Partnership**

**WASHINGTON** – The National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America, Inc. (NCBFAA) and the U.S. Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration (ITA) today announced a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to strengthen the competitiveness of the logistics and transportation industry; promote trade and investment; and ensure fair trade through the rigorous enforcement of U.S. trade laws and agreements.

“This new partnership contributes to NCBFAA’s growing responsibilities as the leading voice of the international trade market and its reputation as the go-to logistics and transportation authority for access to federal agencies most actively engaged in the oversight of international commerce,” said NCBFAA President Geoffrey C. Powell. “The agreement provides the Association with an outstanding platform for advancing the interests of not only its diverse membership but also the industry at large.”

“We’re pleased to welcome the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America as a partner in our efforts to strengthen the U.S. economy and support local jobs through expanding U.S. exports,” said [Marcus Jadotte](#), U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Analysis. “With more than 96 percent of potential customers living outside U.S. borders, it’s imperative that American companies of all sizes consider the benefits of selling their products abroad. We believe this partnership with NCBFAA provides us with a unique opportunity to educate U.S. exporters and service providers of all sizes, increase awareness, and address logistics and transportation hurdles.”

This collaboration seeks to increase awareness of the economic benefits of international trade, educate the public on trade activities as a job creator and development strategy, as well as encourage U.S businesses to accelerate their exporting operations while simultaneously generating interest from foreign companies to coordinate with ITA regarding importing valuable commodities.

“This announcement has been a natural progression due to the fact that the NCBFAA and its dedicated committees have been working with ITA for decades,” said NCBFAA Executive Vice President barbara reilly. “Officially announcing this joint venture marks the culmination of a longstanding alliance delivering numerous impressive achievements including the receipt of Commerce’s Presidential “E” Award for Exports.”

The “E” Award, which was presented to NCBFAA in 2012 by U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary John Bryson at the White House in Washington, D.C, is the highest recognition any U.S. entity may receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.

NCBFAA and ITA will cooperatively engage in increasing trade and business investment among the U.S. business community, particularly small- and medium-sized corporations, U.S educational institutions, appropriate international constituencies, and the general public. The two organizations will cooperate and coordinate trade and business investment promotion activities and programs, which will potentially include promoting greater awareness of national initiatives such as the National Export Initiative/Next, the National Travel and Tourism Strategy, and the Select USA Initiative.

NCBFAA joins other ITA [Strategic Partners](#) who have collectively connected more than 1,500 companies to federal export assistance.

### **About NCBFAA**

Headquartered in Washington, DC, the NCBFAA represents nearly 1,000 member companies with more than 110,000 employees in international trade - the nation's leading freight forwarders, customs brokers, ocean transportation intermediaries (OTIs), NVOCCs and air cargo agents, serving more than 250,000 importers and exporters. Established in 1897 in New York, NCBFAA is the effective national voice of the industry. Through its various committees, counsel and representatives, the Association maintains a close watch over legislative and regulatory issues that affect its members. It keeps them informed of these and other related issues through its weekly Monday Morning eBriefing, and various meetings and conferences throughout the year. For more information on NCBFAA, visit [www.ncbfaa.org](http://www.ncbfaa.org).

### **About ITA**

The International Trade Administration (ITA) is the premier resource for American companies competing in the global marketplace. ITA has 2,200 employees assisting U.S. exporters in more than 100 U.S. cities and 75 markets worldwide. For more information on ITA, visit [www.trade.gov](http://www.trade.gov).

###