



Manufacturers are facing significant trade and competitiveness challenges. A more effective U.S. trade policy is needed to level the playing field as well as preserve and strengthen our nation's manufacturing base. The U.S. Government must expand rules-based trade; keep our laws against unfair trade strong; strictly enforce trade agreements; and use all means to prevent/address unfair trade and injurious surges.

Background/Situation:

- U.S. manufacturers and their workers can compete with anyone in the world on a level playing field, but they cannot compete against governments. Strong U.S. antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) laws are therefore essential, as they provide critical discipline against foreign unfair trade practices.
- China has protected and increased its exports by manipulating its currency, raw material markets and border measures for key goods. Other offshore producers are also using subsidies, tax and trade policies and investment restrictions to protect their steel and manufacturing markets and to expand their exports.

Importance of Strong Trade Laws to Our Nation's Competitiveness:

- Failure to address foreign unfair trade policies and practices will continue to impede our nation's economic recovery, cost U.S. jobs and undermine the international competitiveness of steel and many other U.S. manufacturers.

Industry Policy Request:

- **Expand rules-based trade and keep strong our laws against unfair trade and injurious surges** – Pass the Korea-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (KORUS) with provisions to ensure the continued effectiveness of our AD/CVD laws; support a “rebalancing” of the Doha Round to ensure our trade laws are not weakened by negotiations or WTO Appellate Body decisions; and pursue new negotiations to eliminate foreign tariffs, export restrictions, and other barriers to U.S. exports.
- **Keep trade laws and agreements strictly enforced** – Support an enhanced Customs focus on enforcement, adequate resources for the Commerce Department Import Administration and the USTR, and prosecution of more WTO cases against foreign WTO-illegal practices.
- **Use all means available to address unfair trade and injurious surges from China** – Support full and strict CVD application against China, passage of an effective remedy against currency manipulation, and increased scrutiny of China's state-owned enterprises (SOEs).