



Consuming Industries
Trade Action Coalition

www.citac-trade.org

April 2001

CITAC Connections

ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL

With Congress in recess for a significant portion of the month, one might expect CITAC had little to do. Not true! Here's a highlight of our accomplishments this month, which built to a crescendo by April 30. So we start there.

The CITAC Team:

Jon Jenson, Chairman,
216-524-8919

Janet Kopenhaver,
Executive Director, 703-
528-7822

Lewis Leibowitz, Coun-
sel, 202-637-5638

Paul Nathanson and
Christina Bucher,
Press/Public Relations,
202-466-6210

Steel Study

CITAC's Foundation released the results of its first commissioned study, "Costs to American Consuming Industries of Steel Quotas and Taxes," prepared by The Trade Partnership. The study quantified the dramatic adverse effects H.R. 808 and a Section 201 trade case will have on steel-consuming industries. CITAC also hosted a press briefing to answer questions about the study. Finally, copies were sent to every Member of Congress, as well as numerous Administration officials responsible for trade policymaking. The complete study is available on the CITAC website at www.citac-trade.org.

Capitol Hill/Administration Initiatives

CITAC also continued to work on building support for the CITAC bill to make trade laws fairer to consuming industries.

- *House* – CITAC sent a letter, signed by 20 companies and associations, to a highly respected Democratic House member urging him to co-introduce the CITAC bill. CITAC also provided a "Dear Colleague" letter to our chief House sponsor to seek co-sponsors for our legislation.
- *Senate* – CITAC sent letters, signed by 21 companies and associations, to two Democratic Senators urging them to co-introduce the CITAC bill with our chief Senate sponsor. In addition, CITAC members met with the staffs of three Democratic Senators.

CITAC Connections is a monthly publication of the Consuming Industries Trade Action Coalition
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Press Activities

CITAC sent out two Press Releases, one summarizing the results of the steel study; the second urging the International Trade Commission to consider the impact on US consumers before putting restrictions on Canadian lumber imports.

CITAC Chairman Jon Jenson also submitted two "Letters to the Editor," one to the *Akron Beacon Journal* on the real reasons for the steel crisis; the second to the *Washington Post* supporting the Free Trade Area of the Americas initiative.

CITAC IN THE NEWS...

CITAC received widespread press attention from numerous and diverse publications during April. Here is but a sampling.

Softwood Lumber:

- *The Canadian Press (Mar. 28) and PR Newswire (Mar. 28):* Quoting Jon Jenson's letter to President Bush urging him to let the Softwood Lumber Agreement expire.
- *Canadian Broadcast Corporation Newshour (Apr. 2):* Interview with Lewis Leibowitz.
- *MSN.com (Apr. 3):* Janet Kopenhaver discussing potential effects of softwood lumber duties on downstream industries.
- *UPI (Apr. 27):* Quoting a CITAC press release warning that any new quotas or fees on lumber imports will endanger competitiveness of consuming industries.

Steel:

- *Metal Center News (Apr. 1), The Wall Street*

Journal; American Metal Market; Bloomberg; The Globe and Mail; Reuters; the Associated Press; and The Wall Street Journal Europe (Apr. 30). More press coverage ensued on May 1: *The Cleveland Plain Dealer, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and the Asia Wall Street Journal.*

Byrd Amendment:

- *Charleston Daily Mail (Apr. 20):* Lewis discussing why the Byrd Amendment is bad trade policy.

General:

- *The Legal Times (Apr. 16):* Jon discussing CITAC's role lobbying against protectionism.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS THIS MONTH GO TO...

CITAC staff would like to thank the following individuals who put in extra effort this month on behalf of CITAC:

Erik Autor, National Retail Federation, who sent out an Action Alert grassroots mailing to NRF members urging them to send letters to their Members of Congress requesting that they co-sponsor the CITAC bill.

Keith Smith, French & Company, who drafted a "Dear Colleague" letter for the House sponsor of the CITAC bill.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome Enron Corporation and Consumers Against Government Waste as the newest members of CITAC.