



CITAC Connections

February 2001

ACTIVITIES TO DATE

CITAC has been busy since January, meeting with both Congressional and Administration staff to encourage them to consider the interests of consuming industries in trade policymaking. Responses have been quite positive.

Capitol Hill/Administration Meetings

- ◇ *House* - Coalition members met with ten Representatives' staffs (four Democrats and six Republicans), and the Ways and Means Committee Democratic Trade Counsel. In addition, nine senior company officials, members of the Precision Metalforming Association, met with Members or staff of six of their Congressional representatives to convey their support for CITAC's message.
- ◇ *Senate* - Coalition members met with eight Republican Senators' staffs; one Commerce Committee Republican staff member, and the Finance Committee Chairman's Trade Counsel.
- ◇ *Administration* - Coalition members met with officials in the U.S. Trade Representative's Office of Basic Industries.

Press Activities

CITAC sent out four Press Releases; another is in the works. The first blasted the Byrd Amendment; the second described the adverse impact of a pending dumping case on farmers; the third attacked "Protectionist Steel Union Proposals," and the fourth called for sound policy choices in the wake of steel bankruptcies. Copies of the releases can be found on the CITAC web site.

Other Efforts

Thirty-four CITAC members signed CITAC's submission to USTR commenting on the request by ten countries for consultations on the Byrd Amendment.

The CITAC Team:

Jon Jenson, Chairman,
216-524-8919

Laura Baughman, Executive Director, 202-347-1041

Janet Kopenhaver, Co-Executive Director, 703-528-7822

Lewis Leibowitz, Counsel, 202-637-5638

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

CITAC Connections is a monthly publication of the Consuming Industries Trade Action Coalition
1775 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 1250
Washington, DC 20006
202-347-1041

CITAC IN THE NEWS...

CITAC received wide press attention in February.

- An article, quoting CITAC Chairman Jon Jenson in *Metal Center News* (Feb. 1).
- A wire article quotes Jenson in *Associated Press Business News* section (Feb. 5).
- The *New Orleans City Business* (Feb. 5) also quotes Jenson.
- Several stories quoted the CITAC letter to USTR urging repeal of the Byrd Amendment: *Dow Jones & Company* (Feb. 13), *Kyodo* (Feb. 13), and *American Metal Markets* (Feb. 19).

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

The CITAC web site (www.citac-trade.org) will prove to be a very beneficial information source for its members. We will continually update and enhance it as we move forward in getting the interests of consuming industries included in the trade debate. You can now find on the web site:

- ◇ All CITAC press releases and speeches. Where possible, links to articles citing CITAC will be listed.
- ◇ The organization's goals, mission statement and member benefits.
- ◇ Information on how to join the Coalition and Frequently-Asked-Questions.

ON THE LEGISLATIVE FRONT. . .

Congressional representatives have introduced several trade bills that could affect CITAC members. This and future issues of the newsletter will alert you to them. All can be found on the Thomas web page (<http://thomas.loc.gov>).

In the House

Ralph Regula (R-OH) – Would amend Section 201 of the Trade Act to make it easier to reach a positive injury finding (HR 518). It also calls for a steel import permit and monitoring program. It was referred to Ways and Means.

James Traficant (D-OH) – Would amend the Emergency Steel Loan Guarantee Act of 1999 to increase loan guarantees for steel companies (HR 520), referred to Financial Services.

James Traficant (D-OH) and ten co-sponsors – Calls on the president to take all necessary measures to respond to the surge of steel imports resulting from financial crises in Asia, Russia and other regions (HRes 16), referred to Ways and Means.

In the Senate

Tim Johnson (D-SD) and seven others – Would amend the Agriculture Marketing Act of 1946 to require retailers of beef, lamb, pork, and perishable agricultural commodities to inform consumers of the commodities' country of origin (S 280), referred to Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

Do you know someone who should be a CITAC member?

Contact Laura Baughman, CITAC Executive Director, at 202-347-1041 or baughman@tradepartnership.com