Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP)

Opportunities for North Dakota

T-TIP stands to be an ambitious, comprehensive, and high-standard trade and investment agreement that offers significant benefits for U.S. companies and workers through eliminating existing trade barriers and better enabling U.S. companies and workers to compete. **T-TIP will provide significant new opportunities for U.S. industry, as approximately one-fifth of all U.S. goods and services exports go to the European Union (EU). In 2013, every billion dollars of U.S. exports supported 5,590 jobs. In that same year, U.S. goods and services exports to the EU supported an estimated 2.5 million U.S. jobs.**

**Key Opportunities for North Dakota’s Industries**

**Machinery**

The machinery sector accounted for 66 percent of North Dakota’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period machinery product exports to the EU from North Dakota averaged $139 million annually. The EU currently has tariffs on machinery products as high as 9.7 percent. North Dakota companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

**High-tech Instruments**

The high-tech instruments sector accounted for 7 percent of North Dakota’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period high-tech instruments exports to the EU from North Dakota averaged $15 million annually. The EU currently has tariffs on high-tech instruments as high as 6.7 percent. North Dakota companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

**Building Products**

The building products sector accounted for 6 percent of North Dakota’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period building product exports to the EU from North Dakota averaged $12 million annually. The EU currently has tariffs on building products as high as 10 percent. North Dakota companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.
Exports Sustain Thousands of North Dakota Businesses including SMEs

A total of 1,897 companies exported from North Dakota locations in 2013. Of those, 1,582 (83.4 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees. Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly one-third (29.7 percent) of North Dakota’s total exports of merchandise in 2013.

North Dakota exported $251 million annually in goods to the EU (2012-2014 average). The EU’s tariff elimination as part of T-TIP would provide new market access that could benefit North Dakota’s exports.

The EU’s tariff elimination as part of T-TIP would provide new market access that could benefit North Dakota’s exports. Exports from North Dakota could also benefit from efforts in T-TIP to achieve new market access commitments in services and investment, improve the regulatory environment, and establish global best practices.

How Past FTAs Have Benefitted North Dakota

The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries, which accounted for $4.7 billion (88 percent) of North Dakota’s exports in 2014. During the past 10 years (2005-2014), exports from North Dakota to these markets grew by 565 percent, with NAFTA, CAFTA-DR, Korea, Chile, and Panama showing the largest dollar growth during this period.

In Their Own Words: T-TIP Comments

**The American Farm Bureau Federation**

“The American Farm Bureau Federation, a U.S. general farm organization, supports efforts to increase agricultural trade flows and remove several major impediments to this flow that currently exist between the United States and the European Union.”

**The Consumer Electronics Association**

“The TTIP has the potential to significantly promote and enhance trade in the important consumer electronics industry sector to the benefit of businesses and consumers in the United States and Europe.”

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)**

“Our member companies manufacture a diverse set of products including power transmission and distribution equipment, lighting systems, factory automation and control systems, and medical diagnostic imaging systems. Saving time and money not having to pay import duties could provide for notable efficiencies and re-programming of company resources into more productive activities.”

For more information, please see [www.trade.gov/fta](http://www.trade.gov/fta).

Prepared by Trade Policy and Analysis, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce. Sources include resources from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s International Trade Administration, Bureau of the Census, and Bureau of Economic Analysis, as well as the International Monetary Fund’s World Economic Outlook.