Opportunities for Utah

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 Utah’s Industries

Metals and Ores

The metals and ores sector accounted for 73 percent of Utah’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period metals and ores exports to the EU from Utah averaged $3.0 billion annually. The EU currently has tariffs on metals and ores as high as 10 percent. Utah companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

The ICT sector accounted for 3 percent of Utah’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period ICT exports to the EU from Utah averaged $119 million annually. The EU currently has tariffs on ICT products as high as 14 percent. Utah companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

Chemicals

The chemicals sector accounted for 2 percent of Utah’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period chemicals exports to the EU from Utah averaged $103 million annually. The EU currently has tariffs on chemical products as high as 6.5 percent. Utah companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement. Chemical exports could also benefit from T-TIP provisions that promote regulatory efficiencies and reduce regulatory compliance costs.
Exports Sustain Thousands of Utah Businesses including SMEs

A total of 3,494 companies exported from Utah locations in 2013. Of those, 2,996 (85.7 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees. Small and medium-sized firms generated nearly one-third (31.0 percent) of Utah’s total exports of merchandise in 2013.

Utah exported $4.2 billion annually in goods to the EU (2012-2014 average). During this period, 26 percent of Utah’s total goods exports went to the EU.

The EU’s tariff elimination as part of T-TIP would provide new market access that could benefit Utah’s exports. Exports from Utah 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 Utah

The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries, which accounted for $3.6 billion (29 percent) of Utah’s exports in 2014. During the past 10 years (2005-2014), exports from Utah to these markets grew by 165 percent, with NAFTA, Singapore, Korea, Australia, and Chile showing the largest dollar growth during this period.

In Their Own Words: T-TIP Comments

Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)

“We see significant potential for a TTIP to increase transatlantic trade of telecommunications goods and services. As the two largest telecommunications markets in the world, the benefits of a comprehensive agreement will likely have a significant commercial benefit to the United States and Europe.”

Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA)

“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-programing of company resources into more productive activities.”

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.”

For more information, please see www.trade.gov/fta.
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