Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP)

Opportunities for Virginia

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 Virginia’s Industries**

**Machinery**

The machinery sector accounted for **13 percent** of Virginia’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period machinery product exports to the EU from Virginia averaged **$505 million** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on machinery products as high as 9.7 percent. Virginia companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

**Chemicals**

The chemicals sector accounted for **12 percent** of Virginia’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period chemical product exports to the EU from Virginia averaged **$487 million** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on chemical products as high as 6.5 percent. Virginia 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.

**Forest Products**

The forest products sector accounted for **8 percent** of Virginia’s total exports to the EU between 2012 and 2014. During that same period forest product exports to the EU from Virginia averaged **$301 million** annually. The EU currently has tariffs on forest products as high as 10 percent. Virginia companies would likely benefit from reduced tariffs in this sector as a result of the agreement.

Virginia U.S. Export Assistance Centers: [www.export.gov/Virginia](http://www.export.gov/Virginia)
Exports Sustain Thousands of Virginia Businesses including SMEs

A total of 7,678 companies exported from Virginia locations in 2013. Of those, 6,626 (86.3 percent) were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees. Small and medium-sized firms generated over one-quarter (28.3 percent) of Virginia’s total exports of merchandise in 2013.

Virginia exported $4.2 billion annually in goods to the EU (2012-2014 average). Virginia’s goods exports to the EU increased by 7 percent from 2012 to 2014. During this period, 23 percent of Virginia’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 Virginia’s exports. Exports from Virginia 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 Virginia

The United States currently has free trade agreements in force with 20 countries, which accounted for $7.2 billion (38 percent) of Virginia’s exports in 2014. During the past 10 years (2005-2014), exports from Virginia to these markets grew by 74 percent, with NAFTA, CAFTA-DR, Korea, Singapore, and Colombia showing the largest dollar growth during this period.

In Their Own Words: T-TIP Comments

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<th>The American Farm Bureau Federation</th>
<th>Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA)</th>
<th>National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)</th>
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<td>“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.”</td>
<td>“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.”</td>
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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.