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# Trade & Manufacturing Alert

**July 2017 | Print Issue**

## Ambassador Lighthizer Visits Congress To Discuss The President's Trade Policy Agenda

*Clint Long*

In June, the [Senate Finance Committee](#) and [Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives](#) held hearings on the new administration's trade policy agenda. [More »](#)

## USTR Holds Hearing On NAFTA Renegotiations

*Kathleen L. Benner*

Last week, the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) held three days of public hearings about the upcoming renegotiations of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). [More »](#)

## Senate Passes Russia Sanctions Bill

*Elizabeth Owerbach*

On June 14, 2017, the U.S. Senate passed by vote of 97-2 [a measure](#) to codify, strengthen, and expand sanctions against the Russian Federation in response to its activities in Ukraine, cyber-attacks, interference in the U.S. Presidential election, and activities in Syria. The legislation now faces a vote in the House. [More »](#)

## Trump Tightens Cuba Sanctions

*Betre Gizaw*

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- WTO Appellate Body Issues Report in Boeing Aircraft Case

### China Subsidy

On June 16, 2017 President Trump announced new policy parameters for the U.S.-Cuba relationship and directed the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), Department of Treasury, Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), Department of Commerce, and the State Department to take actions to restrict certain transactions and travel authorizations related to Cuba. This represents a reversal from the Obama Administration's policy of increasing opportunities for U.S. persons to transact with and travel to Cuba. Importantly, the announced changes will not take effect until new regulations are issued. [More »](#)

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## News of Note

- **Update on Border Adjustment Tax** – [Saud Aldawsari & Ahsin Azim](#) – On June 13, 2017, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX) suggested a five-year phase-in for the border-adjustment tax (BAT). The BAT proposal, a key part of Republican comprehensive tax reform efforts, would tax imports and exempt exports. The phase-in would provide businesses time to determine if any of their existing offshore assets could return to the U.S. under the proposed new tax system. [More »](#)
- **Update on Section 232 Steel and Aluminum Investigations** – [Hinh Tran and Benjamin J. Bay](#) – As previously reported, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) is conducting two investigations to determine the effects of imported steel and aluminum on national security pursuant to Section 232(b)(1)(A) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962. Since our last report, the submission period for written comments in both the steel and the aluminum investigations expired and Commerce held a hearing in the aluminum investigation on June 22, 2017. This concludes the public, fact-finding phases of both investigations. [More »](#)
- **WTO Appellate Body Issues Report in Boeing Aircraft Case** – [Manuel Sánchez Miranda](#) – The compliance panel in *US – Large Civil Aircraft (2nd complaint)* rendered its decision on June 9, 2017. The panel concluded that, by continuing to be in violation of Articles 5(c) and 6.3(a), (b), and (c) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM), the United States had failed to comply with the recommendations and rulings of the Dispute Settlement Body; particularly with the obligation under Article 7.8 of the SCM

Agreement to “take appropriate steps to remove the adverse effects or ... withdraw the subsidy.” [More »](#)

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