

The U.S. Department of Commerce's: *News for Connecticut Exporters*

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Telephone 860-638-6950 Fax 860-638-6970

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- **"Internet Guide for International Trade Information":** The Middletown Export Assistance Center (EAC) has updated this guide which contains many useful websites to exporters. For a copy, contact Agnes Klim at (860) 638-6950.
 - **Export Licensing Applications by Internet:** The Bureau of Export Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, is now receiving/processing a significant number of license applications through its new Simplified Network Application Process (SNAP). For access, visit website <http://www.bxa.doc.gov/>, keyword SNAP.
 - **Revised Shipper's Export Declaration Form:** A revised version of the paper SED will be required starting April 1, 2001. To download this new form and to review the guidelines, visit the U.S. Census Bureau's website at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/regulations/forms/index.html>.
 - **Mexico Implements Cash Deposit Requirements for Goods Subject to Reference Prices:** Effective October 1, 2000, the Government of Mexico (GOM) implemented a new surety system for goods subject to "estimated" or "reference" prices. To report complaints, contact Chris Moore in the ITA/MAC Office of NAFTA and Inter-American Affairs at (202) 482-3718 or chris_moore@ita.doc.gov.
 - **Canada-wide Trade Exhibition RepCan 2001:** Repcan 2001 is a horizontal trade event organized this year in three different Canadian cities: in Vancouver, British Columbia (March 12-13); in Toronto, Ontario (June 12-13); and, in Montreal, Quebec (September 20-21). For detailed information contact Middletown EAC at (860) 638-6950.
 - **North American Industry Classification System:** A new classification system called the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) will be used by the NAFTA countries to replace the traditional SIC codes. NAICS will be phased in over the 2000-2001 period. A comprehensive index is available in print or on CD-ROM from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) at (800) 553-6847 or (703) 605-6000, or by visiting the NTIS website at <http://www.ntis.gov/product/naics.htm>.
 - **Introduction of Euro as Currency:** The euro will become the official currency in these European countries as follows: January 28, 2001 - Netherlands; February 9, 2001 - Ireland; December 31, 2001 - Germany; February 17, 2002 - Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain. Banks will continue to accept the old national notes and coins for some time after the change, but they will no longer be in everyday use. Shops, restaurants, and ATM machines will generally use the euro after January 1, 2002.
 - **Trans Atlantic Small Business Initiative (TASBI):** Website, <http://tasbi.com>, is a no fee U.S./European Union effort to connect U.S. and European companies interested in all types of business partnering. You can search by product or service, company name, industry type, country, and partner preference (sales distribution, business partnerships, financing, or R & D).
 - **EMCs Directory:** The Federation of International Trade Associations (FITA) is currently updating its directory of U.S. Export Management Companies (EMCs). EMCs interested in being listed in the FITA's directory should complete the FITA's web-based application form at <http://www.fita.org/emc.html>. For more information, call: 1-800-969-FITA (3482), or fax (703) 620-4922.

- **NAFTA Workshop:** A NAFTA Workshop will be held in Stamford CT on March 1, 2001. For more information, contact Unz & Co. at 1-800-631-3098, or visit: www.unzexport.com.
- **Revised Environment Technologies Industries Home Page:** The new and improved website, www.environment.ita.doc.gov, contains additional items including expanded finance section, trade leads, and tariff information. In addition, firms can provide their input for future U.S. government trade negotiations by completing a non-tariff barrier form.
- **Russian Import Tariff Reform:** On January 1, 2001, new import duty rates on thousands of commodities took effect in Russia. New tariff provisions and fewer base rates were approved in order to encourage and simplify business activities. For more information visit the Russian State Customs Committee online at www.gtk.ru or BISNIS Online's "Customs Corner" at www.bisnis.doc.gov/bisnis/customs.htm.
- **Staff Changes:** Middletown Export Assistance Center International Trade Specialist Kelly Bergren has replaced Scott Pozil. Scott is being transferred to Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

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CT District Export Council
U.S. Dept. of Commerce
213 Court St. Suite 903
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