



SPECIAL PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

4610 North Kenton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60630-4020 U.S.A.

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Fax: 773/725-2294

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER CHICAGO

WITH

U.S. Department of Commerce, Chicago Export Assistance Center Illinois District Export Council

Invite you and your colleagues to a special luncheon program:

DOING BUSINESS IN CHINA

Presentation by:

Bruce Blakeman

**Special Counsel to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Embassy, Beijing**

China is the fastest-growing major export market for U.S.-made goods and services. Exports of U.S.-made goods and services to China rose 22% in 2004 to \$34.7bn. Exports of Illinois-made goods and services to China rose 16% to \$923mn for the same period.

Top U.S. export prospects to China include information technologies, telecommunications equipment, software, energy, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, pollution control, airport and ground support equipment, consumer products, building materials, automotive parts, agricultural chemicals, plastic materials and resins, grains and cotton.

While China has opened its market somewhat more widely to U.S. business after joining the World Trade Organization (WTO) in December 2001, it has still a long way to go to fully comply with its WTO obligations. Nowhere is this non-compliance more apparent than in the area of intellectual property rights protection.

China might, in fact, not be the right market for every U.S. company at this time. But if you do decide to do business in China, the U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service (USFCS) is ready to help you explore opportunities there.

Few people can articulate the realities of doing business in China better than Special Counsel to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce in China Bruce Blakeman. He has been based at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing since October 2003. His areas of responsibility include monitoring China's WTO accession, assessing Chinese market access policy development and developing strategies for U.S. company export promotion to China.

Before his deployment to Beijing, Mr. Blakeman served the Bush Administration as the Commerce Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Domestic Operations. He also spent many years in the private sector with market research firm Wirthin Worldwide, including three years in Singapore as Managing Director for Wirthin's Asia-Pacific operations.

Thursday, May 26

11:45 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**ROSEWOOD RESTAURANT
9421 West Higgins Road, Rosemont, IL**

Members & clients of sponsoring organizations - \$35; Non-members - \$45.

Please Make Your Reservations Early: Contact the ITA/GC by Noon, Monday, May 23

Tel: 773/725-1106

rsvp@itagc.org

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American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa are welcome.

A reservation is an obligation to pay: reservations not canceled 48 hours prior to the meeting will be billed.



The
International
Trade Association
of Greater Chicago

REGISTRATION FORM

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Please register me/us for the **May 26** luncheon program: ***Doing Business in China...***

Name: _____ Title: _____

Company: _____

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Payment Method: Personal Check Corporate Check American Express Discover MasterCard Visa

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Please make checks payable to: **The International Trade Association of Greater Chicago**

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