

Welcome to the August 2017 BABC Trade & Investment Update

Despite August's reputation as a time of rest and relaxation, here at BABC we have been as busy as ever. Following a number of successful events and initiatives in the first half of the year, BABC chapters are working hard to prepare a great lineup of events for members after summer ends.

On the policy front the transatlantic business community was also given little time to break, particularly with the release of the UK Government's Position Papers on Brexit including their aim for a transitional customs union deal. Furthermore, research published by Lloyds Banking Group highlights post-Brexit indecision, as data indicates half of exporters have yet to revisit their exporting strategies.

A highlight this month was the welcoming of Robert Johnson in his new role as the US Ambassador to the UK. BABC looks forward to working with Ambassador Johnson to increase trade and investment between the UK and the US. Another August high point included BAB Director of Policy & Trade in the Huffington Post.

Our transatlantic network grows every day. Join us and get in touch at trade@babinc.org

Follow [@BABCPolicy](#) and [@BABCTrade](#) to stay up to date with all things trade.

Highlights

Lots to look forward to in September

With summer coming to an end, here are some events members can look forward to this September:

- **19 September** - BAB London's Annual Gala Dinner celebrating the UK-US transatlantic relationship with business leaders and senior UK and US government representatives
- **21 September** - British Embassy Residence Garden Party for BABA's 30th Anniversary Celebration with the UK Ambassador
- **23 September** - BABC Georgia's Annual Garden Party with the UK Ambassador for BABC-Georgia Members
- **26 September** - BABC of Greater Philadelphia's event, 'Cybersecurity - Protecting the Crown Jewels of Your Business,' will explore sharing information, data security and other matters.

"Across the Pond" Feature: NBCUniversal



To learn more about NBCUniversal's story, click [here](#).

Meetings and Initiatives

BAB NY Startup Initiative



BAB New York, in partnership with Gust, is accepting applications for startups with a presence in New York to join BAB's unrivaled transatlantic network. The New York Startup subscription aims to help early stage companies forge connections with larger firms in New York and to build partnerships between businesses and entrepreneurs. The subscription gives NY startups access to investor readiness tools, brokered introductions, and invite-only access to curated programs.

To learn more, submit an inquiry on BritishAmerican Business' [startup homepage](#) or [apply online](#).

BAB London Transatlantic Growth (TAG) Awards



At the heart of the UK-US trading relationship lies the challenge of unlocking the potential of British SMEs. The TAG Awards aim to highlight and celebrate SMEs who are already fulfilling their transatlantic goals. BAB hopes sharing these stories will inspire other SMEs to fulfil their ambitions for growth in the transatlantic market.

Nominations are open until January 2018 and invited from SMEs in the following 11 Awards categories:

- Mid-Size Export Award
- Mid-Size Inward Investment Award
- Medium Export Award
- Medium Inward Investment Award
- Small Export Award
- Small Inward Investment Award
- Micro Export Award
- Micro Inward Investment Award
- Woman in Business Award
- Family Run Business Award
- '30 and Under' Achievement Award

The application process can be made [here](#) and for more information contact [Anna Doherty](#), Events and Marketing Manager.

Outreach and Media



BAB Director of Policy & Trade in the Huffington Post

Jack Sommers of HuffPost UK tackles what the reality of a US-UK trade deal could mean for British businesses and American investors and consults Emanuel Adam, BAB's Director of Policy & Trade, on the matter. Adam asserts that 'despite potential advantages of a new UK/US trade deal after a Hard Brexit, BAB's members would prefer Britain remain in the Single Market and Customs Union.'

[Read the article here.](#)



BAB issues statement on UK Government Customs Position papers

On behalf of BAB, Emanuel Adam welcomes the UK government's aim to explore a model for an interim period on customs saying such a period would offer "frictionless trade across the borders" and help avoid a cliff edge scenario. Read more on BAB's statement [here](#).



BAB and BABC welcome new US Ambassador to London

Jeffries Briginshaw, BABC CEO, [offered congratulations](#) on behalf of BAB and BABC to Robert Johnson on his appointment to serve as US Ambassador in the UK, saying "[the] transatlantic business community will welcome the opportunity to work with Ambassador Johnson to increase trade and investment on both sides of the Atlantic."

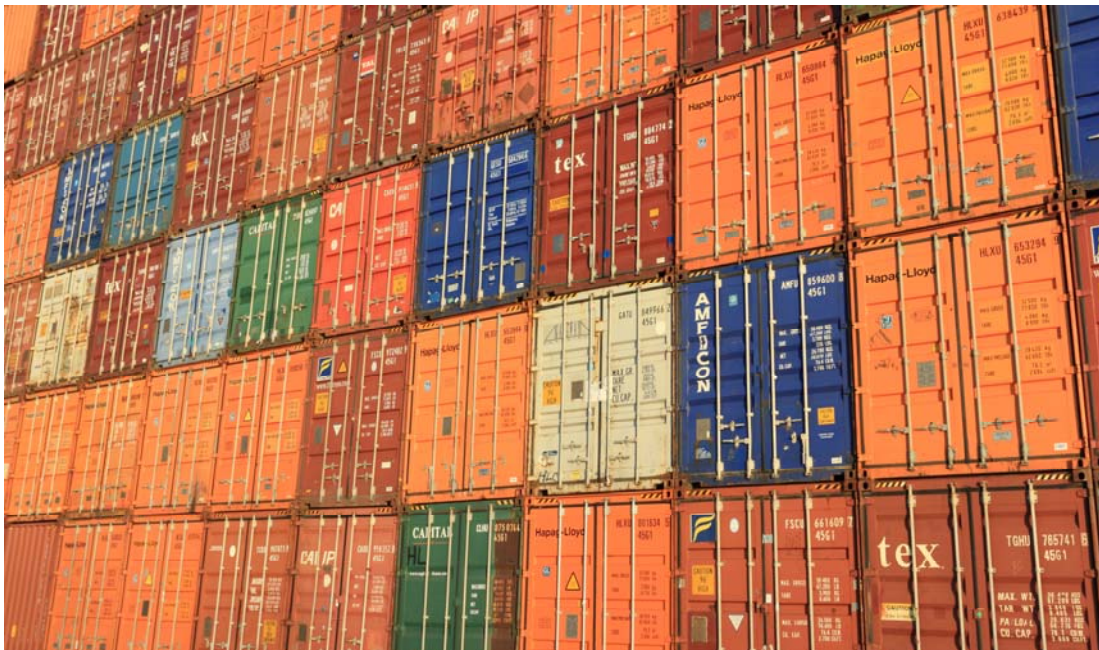


BABC Trade Twitter account highlights UK/US trade in new series of tweets

The BABC Trade Twitter account is featuring the importance of UK/US trade in a new series of tweets by sharing info-graphics which highlight the trade relationship between the UK and different American cities and states.

Be sure to follow [@BABCTrade](#) to learn more about the importance of UK/US trade relations.

News



UK Government Customs Position Papers

The UK Government confirmed its plan to see a transitional customs union deal in a new paper published. They claim a permanent customs arrangement with the EU could be in place by mid-2019. Once this interim period between the UK leaving the EU and the new permanent regime coming into effect ends, the UK will look to agree either a highly streamlined border with the EU or a new partnership which would have no customs border at all. Furthermore, the government has said that during the transition period the customs union would continue to operate in 'close association' with the current model.

The BAB Policy & Trade team provided a summary of the Customs Union Paper in order to clarify what this could mean for business in the UK and which can be found [here](#).

Post-EU Referendum half of exporters have yet to reconstruct future exporting strategies

An [article published 21 July 2017 by Lloyds Banking Group](#) reports their research on the number of British exporters delaying international trade plans one year on from the UK's decision to depart the EU.



President Trump signs executive order on infrastructure

President Trump [announced this month](#) that he has signed an executive order with the intention of making the permitting process for construction of infrastructure projects more efficient. Trump maintains that despite his goal for a more streamlined process, projects will still be required to meet environmental safeguards.



US Chamber of Commerce released a statement regarding Executive Memorandum on China Technology Transfer Policies and IP Theft

US Chamber Executive Vice President and Head of International Affairs Myron Brilliant said the following: "If the US-China relationship is to deliver mutually beneficial growth, US firms must enjoy the same broad, secure access to the Chinese market that Chinese firms already enjoy to the United States. Equally important, China must end forced technology transfer and protect foreign-owned intellectual property rights within China. The Executive Memorandum signed today is an opportunity for the US government to examine these issues and consider a prudent path forward."

Read the [full statement here](#).

Imports and Exports Update



Source: HM Revenue & Customs Trade Statistics, accessed 24 August 2017

Ask a Question

**Send us your question for the next blog post from
Sietske de Groot, Trade Peers Ltd.**

Upcoming Events



BABC Greater Philadelphia Event on Cybersecurity

[Register Here](#)



**BABA Washington British Embassy
Residence Garden Party**



**BABC-Georgia Annual
Garden Party**

[Register Here](#)

[Register Here](#)



Gala Dinner
Tuesday 19 September 2017

BAB London's Annual Gala Dinner

[Register Here](#)

Business Opportunities

US Market Export Portal: Help for UK Exporters

The Department for International Trade (DIT) created this service with the aim of helping UK companies meet their exporting agenda in the US. Through [this portal](#), they hope to learn more about your business and see how they can assist you.



US Commercial Service: For UK Companies seeking to establish presence in the US

The US Commercial Service is the trade arm of the US Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration. Their trade professionals in more than 100 US cities and 75 countries are available to help US companies get started in exporting and can help UK companies establish a presence in the US.

[Learn more here.](#)

US Commercial Service: The Road to Digital Europe

Is your business ready for European sales in 2018 and beyond? Join the US Commercial Service for a US-wide Road Show to prepare for the impending General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in Europe.

The Road Show begins Tuesday 19 September in Cleveland, Ohio. Click [here](#) to find out where else talks will be given.

SelectUSA: Upcoming Events



- September 5 in London, UK: [Future of Energy Seminar](#)
- September 17-20 in Toronto, Canada: [IEDC 2017](#)
- September 7-8 in Kobe, Japan: [International Industrial Fair](#)
- September 17 in Basel, Switzerland: [MipTec 2017](#)
- September 27 in Edinburgh, UK: [Edinburgh Roundtable](#)
- September 28 in Belfast, UK: [Belfast Seminar](#)
- October 19 in Bucharest, Romania: [Trade Winds 2017](#)

BABC members based in the UK are invited to attend "Friends of Denver" reception



For more information, see the details above.

Learn more about BABC

If you are interested in joining BABC at one of our 22 chapters spanning the UK and North America, please get in touch with your local chapter. More information can be found at www.babc.org

To stay up to date on Brexit, Trade and other issues relevant to the transatlantic business community, follow us on Twitter [@BABPolicy](https://twitter.com/BABPolicy) and [@BABCTrade](https://twitter.com/BABCTrade) and join our LinkedIn Group [Global Trade and Investment](#).