



The U.S. – China Transportation Forum Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter from the Office of International Transportation and Trade at the U.S. Department of Transportation

March 2014 - Issue 2

2013 Spotlight

MARAD and MOT Green Ports Technology Reverse Trade Mission

Ahead of the 6th U.S. - China Transportation Forum and the 7th U.S. - China Bilateral Maritime Agreement Annual Consultations held consecutively in Chicago last year, USDOT and USTDA held two separate activities to advance sustainable transportation development in China while providing business opportunities for American companies.

Highlights included:

Technical tour of U.S. ports in Miami, Houston, and Los Angeles / Long Beach

Demonstrations and negotiations with 22 U.S. private sector manufacturers of green port technologies

Heavy Haul Technical Workshop organized by the National Electrical Manufacturing Association (NEMA)



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

On behalf of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx, I'm proud to inform you that the 6th U.S. - China Transportation Forum in Chicago, Illinois was a resounding success! Delegations from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the PRC's Ministry of Transport, led by Deputy Secretary John Porcari and Vice Minister Gao Hongfeng respectively, met on October 30th at the Westin Michigan Avenue in Chicago to review actions taken this past year by the Transportation Forum's Working Groups and to agree on substantive work plans for 2014.

We were especially pleased that the 6th Transportation Forum was held in conjunction with the Sino-American Logistics Conference and the Yangtze Mississippi Rivers Forum, enabling us to leverage the outstanding work the private sector and other organizations are doing within the transportation sector.

We also had tremendous participation from our state and local friends and colleagues, including Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, Illinois State Transportation Secretary Anne Schneider, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, and now former Chicago Transportation Commissioner Gabe Klein, among many others.

In that spirit, we very much look forward to seeing you in China this year, for the 7th U.S. - China Transportation Forum!

Sincerely,

Susan L. Kurland

Assistant Secretary for Aviation
and International Affairs

For more information about this
newsletter, please contact:

US-ChinaTF@dot.gov



U.S. Department of Transportation



Senior officials gather prior to the commencement of the 6th Transportation Forum. From left: MARAD Administrator Paul "Chip" Jaenichen, USDOT Assistant Secretary Susan Kurland, Illinois DOT Secretary Ann Schneider, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn, USDOT Deputy Secretary John Porcari, and China's MOT Vice Minister Gao Hongfeng.

2013 in Review ~ the 6th U.S. – China TF

The 6th meeting of the U.S.-China Transportation Forum in Chicago, Illinois focused on "advancing green transport technology for the sustainable future." Deputy Secretary John Porcari and Vice Minister of Transport, Gao Hongfeng shared views on the importance of developing cutting-edge green transportation technologies that promote economic growth and jobs, while encouraging more collaboration on sustainable transportation initiatives.

As part of his keynote speech, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn highlighted the important role that the state of Illinois plays as a transportation hub, describing Chicago as the "Inland Port of America." This theme was echoed by Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel during the U.S.-China Transportation Infrastructure Dialogue Lunch.

In addition to the Working Group read-outs, participants heard from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Trade and Development Agency on how companies can leverage USG resources in introducing solutions for improving Chinese transportation infrastructure.

The U.S. Department of Energy also briefed participants on the status of the U.S. - China EcoPartnerships program and the value of transportation-related sustainability initiatives. U.S. and Chinese public, private, and non-profit organizations were encouraged to join together in EcoPartnerships to pilot best practices in promoting economic growth, energy security and environmental sustainability.

For further information, please visit: <http://ecopartnerships.bl.gov>

What is the "TF"?

The U.S. - China Transportation Forum is a result of the U.S. - China Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED). Initiated in 2008, the TF serves as the Forum for high-level, multi-modal transportation discussion between the U.S. and China. Through the TF, we work with our Chinese counterparts to develop productive, proactive, and mutually beneficial solutions to common transportation challenges.

This important annual bilateral serves to review progress made among the various TF Working Groups and has launched such past deliverables as Memorandums of Cooperation between transit authorities, as well as cooperation on research, best practices, and data exchange.

2014: What's Ahead?

We're excited to report that the 7th U.S. – China Transportation Forum will be hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Transport in October, 2014.

We will be hosting an Industry meeting and conference call in May, 2014 - stay tuned for the latest details!

Questions? Please contact us at US-ChinaTF@dot.gov



Transportation Forum Working Group Spotlight: Safety and Disaster Assistance Coordination



Who?

The Safety and Disaster Assistance Coordination Working Group is led by Michael Lowder, USDOT Director of the Office of Intelligence, Security and Emergency Response and the PRC's Weng Lei, Associate Director for Safety Supervision. As co-chairs, they lead a team of government and industry experts devoted to improving transportation safety and disaster preparedness in both countries.

What & Where?

Every year the Working Group organizes a robust Workshop focused on critical transportation disaster preparedness and response functions with participants actively engaged in “comparing notes” and sharing lessons learned. Discussions in 2013 included techniques and technologies used by the U.S. to respond to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill in 2010 while the U.S. learned valuable lessons from the Chinese response to the Sichuan Earthquake – equivalent roughly to the earthquake threat the U.S. faces on the New Madrid Fault.

How?

In 2012, in partnership with the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, the Safety and Disaster Assistance Working Group conducted two Reverse Trade Missions (RTM), bringing officials and companies from China to the United States to learn about the technology and services that U.S. companies could provide to fill China's identified needs. One such RTM focused on surface transportation safety and emergency response, while the other was geared toward maritime safety and oil spill response.

Why?

The U.S. and China are both subject to a range of very serious natural disasters. Whether typhoons or hurricanes, earthquakes or tsunamis – the U.S. and China each have a responsibility to help their citizens in times of greatest need. Lessons learned through technical exchanges and reverse trade missions play an important role in improving each government's transportation and disaster response management.

* In the picture above, U.S. and Chinese delegates provide closing remarks at a Seminar and Expo on Port Emergency Preparedness and Oil Spill Response in China.



TF Working Groups: Advancing Mutual Interests and Shared Goals

Each year, the U.S.-China Transportation Forum and its associated international transportation events present a unique opportunity for the public and private sectors from both the U.S. and China to engage on critical transportation issues. Since 2008, a series of working groups have been firmly established to promote and execute critical deliverables. The current TF Working Groups are:

1) Hazardous Materials Working Group

"Regulatory Impediments to the Safe, Economical Movement of Hazardous Materials and the Effective Engagement of Private Sector Stakeholders to identify issues and assist in the Development of Solutions." The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's (PHMSA) efforts to improve the safe transportation of hazardous materials (dangerous goods) are largely framed by a Cooperative Project Arrangement (CPA) between the Department of Transportation and China's Ministry of Transport (MOT). The CPA identifies a number of areas of collaboration including information exchange, regulatory development, harmonization with international standards, and compliance and training. The CPA was signed in March of 2009 and was a direct result of PHMSA's efforts to support the S&ED and the TF.

CO-CHAIRS: Mr. Delmer Billings, Senior Regulatory Advisor, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration, USDOT & Mr. Chen Zhengcai, Director, Waterway Transportation Bureau, China MOT.

2) Ports and Inland Waterways Initiative Working Group

"Improving Trade Facilitation, Economic Development, and the Environment through mutually beneficial exchanges among national and sub-national officials and local stakeholders, including the business sector." As a spin-off to the annual US-China Maritime Consultative meetings, the "PIWI" was established at the 2010 Transportation Forum, and was intended to respond to China's interest in learning from the U.S. experience with inland and intra-coastal waterway development. Chinese officials view the U.S. regional and economic development experience along the Mississippi River as a model to help guide development of the Yangtze River transportation system, as part of a larger attempt to mitigate increasing regional disparities. Through more efficient transportation container facilities and distribution links along the river, China hopes to promote increased manufacturing and consumption in inland cities, part of the country's "Go West" policy aimed at moving manufacturing and jobs away from congested coastal cities.

CO-CHAIRS: Mr. Paul Jaenichen, Acting Administrator, Maritime Administration, USDOT and Mr. Li Hongyin, Deputy Director-General, Water Transportation Bureau, China MOT.



3) Urban Congestion Working Group

“Sustainable Transport to solve Urban Congestion: National and local transportation and related environmental issues from an institutional, accountability and regulatory perspective.” The Urban Congestion Working Group focuses on collaborative efforts in initiating “Green Cities” and sustainable urban transport development. This Working Group supports efforts that focus on national government strategies that encourage regional and local government actions to curb congestion in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions.

CO-CHAIRS: Mr. Arthur Rypinski, Energy Policy Advisor, Office of the Secretary, USDOT and Mr. Li Gang, Director General, Department of Road Transport, China MOT.

4) Safety and Disaster Coordination Assistance Working Group

“Helping our citizens during times of greatest challenge.” Since 2008, the Safety and Disaster Assistance Working Group (SDAWG) has organized numerous exchanges of transport safety management, preparedness, response, and recovery in the U.S. and China. A Five Year Memorandum of Understanding was signed in 2010, encouraging additional activities such as policy workshops, study tours in the U.S. and China, training opportunities, and staff exchanges. In 2013, together with the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) and the Department of Commerce, the SDAWG conducted a seminar and expo in China on Port Emergency Preparedness and Oil Spill Response, which was cited as one of the successes in the Annual Report of the US-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue.

CO-CHAIRS: Mr. Michael Lowder, Director, Office of Intelligence, Security and Emergency Response, Office of the Secretary, USDOT and Mr. Weng Lei, DDG, Safety Supervision Department, China MOT.

5) New Technologies in Transport (Rail) Working Group

“Enhancing Rail technology through research information exchange and determining next steps for establishing new priority areas for future collaboration.” In 2013, the National Railway Administration (NRA) of China and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), along with the research community and industry representatives, established and agreed upon three new areas of collaboration for 2014: to enhance safety in both countries, U.S. and Chinese authorities will collaborate on methods for accident investigation and analysis; review safety oversight processes within both countries; and share information on how to establish the process for certification of equipment for operation.

CO-CHAIRS: Ms. Barbara Barr, Director, International Programs, Federal Railroad Administration, USDOT and Mr. Tian Jun, Director, Safety Oversight Department, National Railway Administration, China MOT.

Want to Get Involved?

If you would like to participate in or just learn more about any of the Transportation Forum Working Groups, please contact: US-ChinaTF@dot.gov



Strengthening U.S.-China Cooperation on Energy and Climate Change

American and Chinese diplomats got to work last year on developing joint efforts at combating climate change. As part of the climate accord announced by Presidents Barack Obama and Xi Jinping at the Security and Economic Dialogue in July 2013, the United States and China “affirm the importance of deepening cooperation to address climate change, reduce local air pollution, transition to a low carbon energy economy, and strengthen the resilience of global energy markets.”

As part of this effort, the U.S.-China Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) was launched to ensure bilateral cooperation in tackling a range of climate change producers, including through Energy Efficiency, Smart Grids, Greenhouse Gas Data Collection and Management, Carbon Capture Utilization and Storage (CCUS), and Heavy Duty and Other Vehicles.

To help accelerate progress on the CCWG, the United States and China have committed to addressing motor vehicle emissions standards and heavy-duty vehicle fuel efficiency standards to reduce greenhouse gas emission through technical assistance, joint research and other means.

The cooperative work under the Transportation Forum through the efforts of the Urban Congestion Working Group complements the CCWG by supporting national government strategies that encourage regional and local government actions to curb congestion in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas and other emissions.

Click [here](#) for more information and related details.

Deputy Secretary Porcari says Goodbye



Deputy Secretary Porcari receives the Department's highest award from Secretary Anthony Foxx.

A proud co-Chair of the U.S. – China Transportation Forum since its inception, Deputy Secretary John Porcari departed the U.S. Department of Transportation on December 31, 2013. Calling it “one of the great honors of my life to serve”, Deputy Secretary Porcari left an indelible mark not only on the Transportation Forum but transportation in America at-large.

Among his many achievements, Porcari, along with his counterparts at the Ministry of Transport, presided over the growth of the TF into the high-level, multi modal dialogue that it is today.

We thank John Porcari for his tireless service and welcome Acting Deputy Secretary Victor Mendez as new co-Chair of the U.S. – China Transportation Forum!

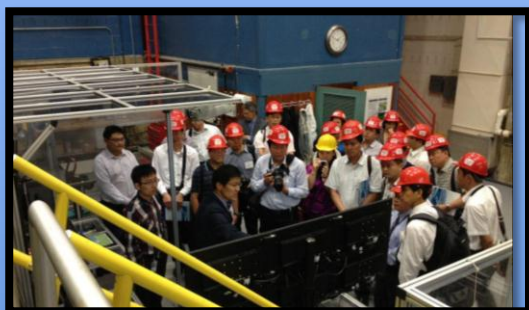
6th Transportation Forum ~ Chicago, Illinois



U.S.-China joint study tour learns about bridge construction at Turner Fairbanks Research Center in McLean, VA.



Mike Louder, Director of the Office of Intelligence, Security and Emergency Response and Mr. Wang, DG, Safety and Supervision, during the 2012 Workshop.



U.S.-China joint study tour on emergency preparedness at the Qingdao port in China.



Administrator Jaenichen and Director General Song Dexing sign the agreed minutes of the 7th Maritime Consultative Meeting



Guests mingle during the 6th TF Welcome Reception.



Delegates listen to panel presentations during the 6th TF in Chicago.

For all the latest news and developments, please visit the Transportation Forum website [here](#).

