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New Members Tapped to Serve on District Export Council

Eighteen PA business leaders appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce to serve

Pittsburgh – U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross appointed 18 business leaders to serve a four-year term on the Western Pennsylvania District Export Council (WPADEC). The WPADEC is one of 61 District Export Councils (DEC) across the United States, with members representing a wide range of manufacturing and service sectors.

DEC members volunteer their time and specialized expertise to companies, particularly, small and medium-sized businesses, in their local communities establish or increase export sales, thus promoting United States economic growth and creating new and higher-paying jobs for their communities. DEC members also support and participate in numerous trade promotion activities, as well as advocate for effective trade policy positions. In the past year the WPADEC has offered several programs on trade that included, USMCA Roundtable with the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce; Protecting Your Intellectual Rights in China; U.S. Export Controls, Access Asia; and Incoterms 2020.

“These new members are part of a select corps of trade experts dedicated to providing international trade leadership and guidance to the local business community and assistance to our local U.S. Commercial Service office on export business development issues for PA companies. These individuals have been appointed based on their international trade leadership, expertise, and ability to influence the local environment for exporting,” said Gary Carver, Chair of the WPADEC. “We are so pleased to have these talented individuals, join our DEC.”

The WPADEC’s mission is to facilitate and encourage the growth of Pennsylvania exports by highlighting export opportunities and serve as a communication link between the business community and the U.S. Commercial Service and larger U.S. Department of Commerce initiatives. “Economic security is national security,” added Lyn Doverspike Director of the Pittsburgh U.S. Commercial Service office and executive secretary for the WPADEC, “and nothing speaks to economic growth like finding and growing new export markets. Pennsylvania is a top 10 exporting state exporting over \$41B in 2018 but there is always room to grow. We are very happy to be working with the WPADEC and be a part of a successful formula that helps meet the need of international business development by growing export markets for the companies in our region.”

Western PA District Export Council Appointments:

New Four-year term appointments:

- Greg Clarke, **Integrated Dispense Systems**, Vice President of Business Development
- Damian Claus, **CASTUS**, CEO
- Shawn Cupples, **GNC**, Vice President International Business Development
- Patrick Findle, **Gas Technology Institute**, Senior Program Manager
- Vince Gastgeb, **Allegheny County (Pittsburgh) Airport Authority**, Vice President Government & Corporate Affairs
- Jim Matharu, **Aquatech International**, Senior Vice President Enterprise Services
- Rachel Mauer, **German American Chamber of Commerce**, President
- Jerry Pompa, **Compunetix Inc.**, Senior Vice President / Division Manager
- Nick Zosky, **Harbison Walker International Inc.**, Legal Affairs Manager & Trade Compliance Official

Re-Appointments for an additional four-year term

- Jack Adams, **Calgon Carbon, a Kuraray Company**, Executive Director, Government Affairs

- Donald Bonk, **Carnegie Mellon University Office of Government Affairs**, Consultant
- Greg Chambers, **Oberg Industries Inc.**, Director of Corporate Compliance
- John Hindman, **Leidos**, Sr. International & Public Affairs Advisor
- Yenner Karto, **F.N.B. Corporation**, Senior Vice President & Head of International Banking Services
- Jo Olson, **University of Pittsburgh Katz Graduate School of Business College of Business Administration**, Professor of Business Administration & Katz Excellence in Service Fellow
- Eric Sauereisen, **Sauereisen Inc.**, President
- Ed Schick, **Huntington Bank**, Vice President Global Advisory Solutions
- Deb Steiner, **Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Central & Northern PA**, Field Director-Transformation Business Services

Current Appointments with two- years left on their four-year term:

- Dan Adams, **UPS**, Director of US. International Sales Operations
- Jim Burd, **Preservation Technologies**, President & CEO
- Gary Carver, **Carver International**, President
- Susanne Cook, **Cohen & Grigsby**, Director & Chair International Group
- Les Dutka, **Dutka International**, President & CEO
- Dave Huddleston, **Forta Corporation**, International Business Development Manager
- Lori Joint, **Manufacturer & Business Association**, Vice President
- Rose Morris, **Abram's Nation**, Founder & President
- Lisa Pitell, **Acutronic USA Inc.**, Legal Compliance Officer
- Richard Somiari, **ITSI BioSciences**, President & Chief Scientific Officer
- Marky Richter, **Schneider Downs & Company Inc.**, Shareholder
- Chas Watson, **R.L. Swearer Company Inc.**, President

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District Export Councils (DEC) are organizations of business leaders from local communities, appointed by various U.S. Secretaries of Commerce since their creation in 1974, whose knowledge of and expertise in international business provides a source of professional advice for their region's local firms. Closely affiliated with the U.S. Department of Commerce | International Trade Administration's U.S. Commercial Service, the 61 DEC's that exist throughout the country support the U.S. Government's export promotion efforts. For information on the District Export Councils, please visit www.usaexporter.org



The International Trade Administration, U.S. Commercial Service Pittsburgh office is the local export promotion office of the U.S. U.S. Department of Commerce | International Trade Administration/. With 108 offices throughout the U.S. and in 70 countries, the U.S. Commercial helps U.S. exporters sell their products and services globally. For more information visit www.export.gov/pennsylvania/pittsburgh or call 412-644-2800.