January

**Met with Chairman of Italian Trade Commission**
Chairman Riccardo Monti discussed his interest in strengthening the strategic trade and investment relationship between Italy and California at a private meeting with Chamber members. Italian companies must first invest in Los Angeles to begin the process of enhancing exports, imports and investment activities, said Monti, who was joined by Italian Consul General Giuseppe Perrone and Italian Trade Commissioner in Los Angeles Carlo Bocchi.

February

**Met with U.S. Foods executive**
Members of the Chamber’s Trade Commissioners Networking Group participated in a private briefing and tour of one of the largest Southern California food distribution centers of U.S. Foods - the nation’s leading food service distributors. The group met with Michael Martin, director of purchasing, to discuss and form collaborations on the company’s recent expansion abroad.

March

**Spoke at the UCLA Anderson Forecast Economic Outlook Conference**
Chamber Senior Vice President of Global Initiatives Carlos Valderrama participated in the executive panel discussions focusing on the U.S. competitiveness in a globalized world. Former U.S. Secretary of Commerce and former U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor, who is also a partner at Mayer Brown LLP, was the keynote speaker and encouraged the continued support of free trade agreements and the Trans Pacific Partnership.

April

**Welcomed American Chamber of Commerce, Colombia to Los Angeles**
The Chamber welcomed a Colombian trade delegation to discuss bilateral trade benefits of the new free trade agreement between the United States and Colombia. Fermen Cuza, international president of the World Business Alliance for Secure Trade, organized the event and invited senior executives of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Customs & Border Protection to make presentations about current regulatory matters dealing with imports into the United States.

May

**Kicked off month of events at 87th Annual World Trade Week breakfast**
Nearly 600 business executives and members of the diplomatic corps gathered for the 87th Annual World Trade Week Kickoff Breakfast, featuring keynote speaker Tyler Bryson, Microsoft Corporation, who discussed how new technology can help small businesses become more competitive in the global market. Chamber Board Member Joseph Czyzyk, Mercury Air Group, Inc., received the prestigious Stanley T. Olafson Bronze Plaque Award for his commitment to expand international trade opportunities in Southern California. In addition, 13 students received $10,000 in scholarships.

**Met with Chief Executive of South Africa’s Transnet National Port Authority**
The Chamber met with Tau Morwe, chief executive of Transnet National Port Authority, as he discussed upcoming infrastructure projects and investment opportunities in South Africa. Morwe talked about the passenger terminals in both Cape Town and Durban ports; the ship repair facility in Richards Bay Port; oil and gas terminals in Saldanha; construction of the coal terminal in Richards Bay; and construction of the manganese terminal in Port Elizabeth.

June

**Participated in ASEAN Economic Ministers visit to Los Angeles**
The US-ASEAN Business Council stopped in Los Angeles as part of a roadshow for the ASEAN Economic (Trade) Ministers to L.A. The Chamber worked with representatives from the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Trade Representative and the U.S Department of Commerce to organize this visit. More than 125 regional business leaders had the opportunity to engage key ministers and senior officials with responsibility for promoting trade in Asia.

July

**Supported textile industry concerns**
The Chamber hosted government officials, buyers, suppliers and textile industry leaders in a panel discussion on “The Future of U.S. Manufacturing and Opportunities in Los Angeles.” Panelists addressed concerns about the recent European Union tariff hike to 38 from 12 percent for women’s denim products made in the United States. As a result of this action, L.A. denim manufacturers are now faced with the dilemma of moving their manufacturing offshore to avoid the tariff or passing the cost on to customers in the face of a likely shrinking market share.

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**2013 HIGHLIGHTS**

- Chamber launches The Americas Business Forum with the U.S. Secretary of Commerce
- U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk helps kick off World Trade Week 2009
- Canada’s Minister of International Trade speaks about Trade Opportunities
- Chamber celebrates 50th anniversary of sister city relationship with Nagoya, Japan

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**2009-2012 HIGHLIGHTS**

- California-South Korea Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Trade Mission: Globalizing Trade & Investment
- Vice Chairman of the Export Import Bank of the U.S. speaks at the Chamber
- Chamber welcomes President of the Republic of Chile and Chilean Trade Delegation
Met with Mexican Ambassador to the United States
Chamber hosted Ambassador Eduardo Medina-Mora, Mexico's ambassador to the United States, as he spoke to Chamber Board members and guests representing sectors of the international business community. He discussed the challenges and opportunities of the commercial and industrial exchange between the U.S. and Mexico. Ambassador Medina-Mora showcased the fact that U.S. - Mexican bilateral trade has grown by more than 500 percent during the last 20 years as a result of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Participated in Hong Kong trade event
The Chamber organized the California Pavilion at the Hong Kong Food Expo 2013. Eight small/medium sized California firms introduced their products and services to potential customers in Asia, and participated in several prescheduled one-on-one business meetings. The Food Export was organized by the Hong Trade Development Council, featuring a Trade Hall that attracted nearly 17,000 trade visitors, and the Public Hall which was visited by nearly 400,000 people.

Hosted the Fifth Annual Americas Business Forum
L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti welcomed more than 250 business leaders to the Chamber's Fifth Annual Americas Business Forum at the University of California, Los Angeles. The two-day event provided manufacturers and exporters the opportunity to evaluate business opportunities in Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Peru and other developing markets in Latin America. Approximately 240 business meetings took place with U.S. Senior Commercial Officers to identify export sales opportunities.

Joined Mayor Garcetti in honoring Los Angeles Consular Corps
The Chamber co-sponsored a reception at the Getty House to honor distinguished members of the Los Angeles Consular Corps. Mayor Eric Garcetti highlighted the presence of these diplomats in L.A., applauding them for their role and contribution in continuing to make Los Angeles a global city. This annual event was organized by the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, with the participation of the Chamber and the Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board.

World Trade Week & Port of Long Beach hosts 100 high school students
The Port of Long Beach, in partnership with the Chamber's World Trade Week Education Committee, hosted high school students from Los Angeles Unified and Long Beach Unified school districts to discuss career opportunities in maritime trade. Port of Long Beach representatives and Toyota executives talked about how to select a career in this growing field, education requirements and skills needed to succeed.

Joined kick-off of SelectUSA Investment Summit
The U.S. Department of Commerce kicked off the first-ever SelectUSA 2013 Investment Summit in Washington, D.C. More than 1,200 attendees from nearly 60 countries discussed the advantages of investing in America and the importance of foreign direct investment as a source of job creation and economic growth in the United States. Summit participants connected with local, state and regional economic development organizations and local, state and federal agency officials to learn more about the U.S. as a business destination.

Sponsored the California Pavilion at Seoul ADEX
The Chamber sponsored the California Pavilion at the Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition 2013 (ADEX), which was held Oct. 29 – Nov. 3. Five California firms displayed their products and services, and their representatives scheduled matchmaking meetings with potential clients. ADEX is emerging as a new hub for the aerospace and defense business in Asia. The event was made possible thanks to the U.S. Small Business Administration's State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) Grant through the California STEP Grant Initiative.

Hosts business roundtable with the California-China Office of Trade & Investment
The Chamber, in partnership with the California-China Office of Trade & Investment, held a business roundtable with Diane Long, the executive director of the California-China Office of Trade and Investment. Long met with business leaders around the State to talk about services available to California and Chinese companies interested in trans-pacific trade and investment opportunities.

11
- Chamber selected to lead effort to create jobs through exporting by launching Los Angeles Regional Export Council and receives State Trade & Export Promotion Grant
- Appointed by World Bank as a Private Sector Liaison
- Signed partnership agreement with Korean Importers Association

12
- Received President’s E Star Award at the White House
- Organized the California Pavilion trade event in Chile
- Signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency