



NEWS RELEASE

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Indiana Department of Commerce representative to discuss assistance

Ms. Autumn Brown, international trade financial specialist for the Indiana Department of Commerce, will be the featured speaker at the Tri-State World Trade Council luncheon to be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 18. The luncheon and lecture will be held in University of Southern Indiana's Carter Hall in the University Center.

Brown will discuss the general services offered by the Indiana Department of Commerce and how her area works with the Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im Bank) to provide loan packaging and technical assistance to targeted companies.

The Ex-Im Bank was created in 1934 and established under its present law in 1945 to aid in financing and to facilitate U.S. exports. A primary aim of Ex-Im Bank was to foster trade between the United States and the Soviet Union. During the post-World War II era, Ex-Im Bank helped U.S. companies participate in the reconstruction of Europe and Asia. Ex-Im Bank is encouraged to supplement, but not compete with private capital. Historically, Ex-Im Bank filled gaps created when the private sector is reluctant to engage in export financing. Ex-Im Bank is not an aid or development agency, but a government held corporation, managed by a board of directors.

Ex-Im Bank provides guarantees of working capital loans for U.S. exporters, guarantees the repayment of loans or makes loans to foreign purchasers of U.S. goods and services and provides credit insurance against non-payment by foreign buyers for political or commercial risk. The Bank is focusing on critical areas such as emphasizing exports to developing countries, aggressively countering trade subsidies of other governments, stimulating small business transactions, promoting the export of environmentally beneficial goods and services, and expanding project finance capabilities.

Reservations are required by Wednesday, March 17. The fee is \$8.50. For more information or to register, call USI's Office of Extended Services at 812/464-1864.