Thursday, August 23, 2012

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Legislative & Regulatory News

US, Mexico sign agreement addressing high priority border environmental issues

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa P. Jackson joined Mexico's Secretary for the Environment and Natural Resources Juan Elvira Quesada to sign the Border 2020 U.S.-Mexico Environmental program agreement. The signing was witnessed by a number of leaders including the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico E. Anthony Wayne, Vice Chairman of the Tohono O'odham Nation Wavalene Romero, California Secretary for Environmental Protection Matthew Rodriquez, Baja California Governor José Guadalupe Osuna Millán and Tijuana Mayor Carlos Bustamante Anchondo. The Border 2020 agreement, developed with significant stakeholder input, will work to address high priority environmental and public health problems in the 2,000 mile border region. It follows the Border 2012 environmental agreement which ends this year.

Read more.

Source: U.S. EPA

Court strikes down major pollution rule

A federal court has struck down an Environmental Protection Agency rule that forces cuts in soot- and smog-forming power plant emissions that cross state lines, dealing a major blow to the White House's air quality agenda.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule that forces cuts from plants in 28 states in the eastern half of the country, finding that it exceeds EPA's powers under the Clean Air Act.

Read more.

Source: The Hill

Court Dismisses Challenge to E15 Waiver

A three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia issued a decision Friday dismissing on technical grounds two challenges to the Environmental Protection Agency's decision about two years ago to approve the introduction of gasoline blended with ethanol at the ratio of 15%, or E15.

The 2-1 decision, written by Chief Judge David B. Sentelle, said the petitioners, who are trade associations whose members are part of the petroleum and food industries, had "no standing to bring this action" and





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July/August 2012
There are times when the choices confronting us are clear and obvious. It doesn't happen often, but when it does, we should acknowledge the importance of the

moment. Such is the case with the upcoming United States of America elections on November 6, 2012. Read more...



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therefore, "We dismiss all petitions for lack of jurisdiction." Read more.

EPA Explains Advanced Biofuel Decision

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Monday filed a legal brief with the United States Court of Appeal for the District of Columbia that details why it refused earlier this year to reduce the volume of advanced biofuel that must be sold in 2012 after petitioned to do so by the petroleum industry.

On March 9, the American Petroleum Institute filed a petition for judicial review challenging the volume of cellulosic ethanol the petroleum industry was required to use under the Renewable Fuel Standard for 2012, which was accepted by the court.

The EPA published a final rule establishing the RFS for 2012 on Jan. 9, with the RFS part of the Clean Air regulatory mandate that was amended by the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

Read more.

Source: DTN / Progressive Farmer

1st Interstate Water Quality Trading Program to Begin

In a move aimed at helping power plants and other industry-oriented businesses meet environmental standards, Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky are joining forces to create the first interstate water quality trading program, according to a press release from the American Farmland Trust. The pilot program, which will involve up to 30 farms and several power plants and wastewater facilities, will work in a similar fashion to carbon trading programs. Farmers who implement best practices for conservation management on their land will earn water quality credits for reducing nutrient runoff for chemicals like phorphorus and nitrogen.

Businesses that emit similar nutrients can then pay farmers for those credits and use them to meet their own environmental requirements. If the project is successful, it could expand throughout the entire Ohio River Basin and loop in five more states as well as create credit markets for dozens of power plants, thousands of wastewater facilities and hundreds of thousand of farmers. Source: Governing the States and Localities

HSUS, Oranization for Competitive Markets Form Alliance To Destroy Beef Checkoff

National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President J.D. Alexander expressed disgust following an announcement that the Organization for Competitive Markets (OCM) has formed a partnership with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to destroy more than 25 years of market development and consumer demand building by the Beef Checkoff Program.

Specifically, OCM announced yesterday evening that it will file a lawsuit today seeking an injunction against the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service, Cattlemen's Beef Board and the Beef Promotion Operating Committee. OCM President and Director Fred Stokes stated during the press briefing that HSUS is helping fund its efforts to file the lawsuit. OCM claims to advocate for a fair, competitive agricultural marketplace; however, in doing so it partnered with an organization known for its anti-agriculture agenda. According to Alexander, independent research shows the beef checkoff is supported by nearly 75 percent of cattlemen and women.

"HSUS is an organization going state by state vowing to end production agriculture by outlawing scientifically validated production practices in animal agriculture. Their efforts put people out of business and often jeopardize the well-being of livestock," said Alexander.

OCM made no secrets about its connection to HSUS during the press conference.

Stokes said, "OCM and every cowboy out there owes a deep gratitude to the Humane Society of the United States."

Alexander, who is also an independent cattle feeder from Pilger, Neb., said it is paramount for cattlemen and cattlewomen to know that OCM is working with an extremist animal rights group to disable a program dedicated to building demand for beef.

"Their actions will impact consumers by increasing protein costs at the grocery store. They are no friend to family farmers and ranchers or consumers and will be challenged at every corner by NCBA," said Alexander. "Animal agriculture is vital to sustaining food production and we will not sit by and allow these organizations to stifle our ability to mitigate hunger and feed people here and abroad."

Source: NCBA News Release

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About NAEDA Update

North American Equipment Dealers Association

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The North American Equipment Dealers Association provides educational, legal, legislative, and financial services to approximately 5,000 retail agricultural, construction, large property/rural lifestyle, and outdoor power equipment dealers in the United States and Canada.

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American Wind Power Reaches 50-Gigawatt Milestone

American wind power has blown through an historic milestone: 50 gigawatts of electric generating capacity, the American Wind Energy Association announced, just as Congress works to extend a federal policy the industry says is critical for the continued growth of wind power in the United States.

Denise Bode, AWEA CEO, made the announcement at the National Clean Energy Summit hosted by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) in Las Vegas.

The 50 gigawatts (GW) online means that U.S. wind turbines now power the equivalent of nearly 13 million American homes, or as many as in Nevada, Colorado, Wisconsin, Virginia, Alabama, and Connecticut combined.

In addition, 50 gigawatts (GW) of wind power capacity represents the generating power of 44 coal-fired power plants, or 11 nuclear power plants, and avoids the emission of carbon dioxide equivalent to that produced by 14 million cars.

"This milestone for wind-energy production marks continued success for this clean, renewable and domestically produced energy source," said Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), who sponsored the original Production Tax Credit that industry leaders say has helped lowa become the state with the second most wind power in the nation. "Wind energy has exceeded expectations since I first authored the tax incentive, in 1992, and offers an ideal for expanded production and use of alternative energy sources in the future."

Meanwhile, Reid said at the summit that Congress will vote to extend the \$12 billion federal tax credit for utility-scale wind energy projects. The PTC is set to expire at the end of this year. Reid told reporters that the wind energy tax credit of 2.1 cents per kilowatt will be adopted by this Congress, though likely in a lame duck session after the November elections.

"We will get it done before the end of the year, I'm very confident," the Senate majority leader said. "We may even get this done before the election."

The chief executive of Denmark's Vestas Wind Systems, the world's largest wind turbine manufacturer, has said that the U.S. wind turbine market could see a drop of up to 80 percent next year if the PTC expires.

The Senate Finance Committee last week voted 19-5 bipartisan to extend the credit, among other tax benefits, through 2013.

Source: 25'x25 Newsletter

Industry & Manufacturing News

Mahindra USA expands operations in North America

Mahindra USA, the number one selling tractor brand in the world based on volume, is adding its fourth North American assembly and distribution facility in Bloomsburg, PA. The new facility, celebrating its grand opening on August 28, 9:30 am – 11:30 am, will provide support and service to Mahindra's northeast United States and eastern Canadian dealers and partners.

read more...

Source: Press Release Mahindra

Case IH AFS software offers more functionality & capacity than ever before

Case IH Advanced Farming Systems® (AFS) software is new and improved, offering more functionality and capacity to help producers farm more efficiently. Case IH worked with Farm Works® information management solutions to create this industry-leading software, which gives Case IH customers access to a complete range of desktop solutions for their farm operations.

Read more...

Source: Case iH

John Deere looks to increase its holdings in construction industry

Though people who have used John Deere equipment are often found in the fields of America's farms, the agricultural sector is not the only industry that the company operates in. According to Reuters, the firm is looking to up the ante in the construction industry, as it is looking to challenge Caterpillar and Komatsu in

order to climb to the top of the sector.

Read more...

Source: Machine Finder

AG and CE sector boards elect new directors: Bonomo of McCormick, Miller of Manitou

AEM's AG and CE Sector Boards each elected new directors – AG: Tiago Bonomo of McCormick USA, CE: Daniel Miller of Manitou Americas. They join a cross section of AEM member companies to guide association action for their industry sectors.

The newest sector board directors, each filling an unexpired term, are:

- •Tiago Bonomo, president & CEO of McCormick USA
- •Daniel Miller, president & CEO of Manitou Americas Inc.

AEM's AG Sector Board and CE Sector Board are the association's Board-level groups which determine/recommend strategic direction and develop/direct programs, services and activities focused on their respective industry sectors. The sector boards were formed in 2011 as a result of AEM's new governance structure designed to achieve more efficient and nimble decision making at the Board level.

read more...

Source: AEM

New Chairman Of the Mahindra Group Appointed

Anand Mahindra, Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., was appointed Chairman of the Mahindra Group, at the conclusion of the company's Board meeting which was held in Mumbai on August 8, 2012.

He assumes the mantle of Chairman from Keshub Mahindra who has retired after 48 years at the helm of the Mahindra Group. Keshub Mahindra will continue to guide the company as Chairman Emeritus on the request of the Board.

Anand Mahindra was appointed Managing Director of Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. in 1991 and in 2003, was given the additional responsibility of Vice Chairman. Under Mr. Mahindra's stewardship, the USD 15.4 billion Group has evolved into a socially and environmentally responsible global federation of companies with a leading presence in each sector in which it is present. Mahindra is present across the automotive spectrum, from two-wheelers, three-wheelers, commercial vehicles, SUVs and MPVs to sedans, tractors, and even powerboats and aircraft. In addition, the Group's diversified nature of business spans many frontiers - automotive components, Finance, Insurance, IT, Retail, Real Estate, Hospitality, Logistics and After-Market to name a few.

Fortune magazine has named Anand Mahindra as one of the top 25 most powerful business people in Asia for the year 2011.

During his tenure, the Mahindra Group has also grown inorganically, seizing opportunities across the globe. Recent acquisitions include Ssangyong Motors, Reva Electric Car Company, Satyam Computer Services, Aerostaff Australia and Gippsland Aeronautics among others.

A thought leader in Indian business, Anand Mahindra serves on many industry confederations, national and international and was co Chair of the WEF Davos in 2009. He represents Indian industry at several global meets, including the APEC CEO Summit in 2009.

In November 2011, he was appointed Honorary Ambassador of Foreign Investment Promotion for Korea for a period of two years. He also serves as a member of the International Advisory Board of Singapore's Economic Development Board, which is the lead government agency for planning and executing strategies to enhance its position as a global business centre. He served on the Boards of the National Stock Exchange of India and the National Council of Applied Economic Research. He was President of the Confederation of Indian Industry in 2003-04 and has also been President of the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI).

Anand Mahindra is the co-founder of the Harvard Business School Association of India, an association dedicated to the promotion of professional management in India. A firm believer in the power of education, he initiated the Nanhi Kali programme about two decades ago to provide free education to economically

underprivileged girls in the country. Over 75,000 girls have benefited from the programme. Anand Mahindra is a Trustee of the K.C. Mahindra Education Trust, which provides scholarships to students, and is also on the Board of Governors of the Mahindra United World College of India.

His other social initiatives include co-founding Naandi Danone, which provides safe drinking water to nearly 3 million customers in rural areas, and serving as a Life Trustee on the Board of the Naandi Foundation, which provides meals to 1.3 million children daily. Naandi also brings the best of agriculture and natural resource management to the largest number of small and marginal farmers across the country.

Anand Mahindra is a votary of the humanities. A generous endowment made by him personally to the Harvard Humanities Centre led to its rechristening as the Mahindra Humanities Center in 2010.

He has received several prestigious awards in the course of his career, including the Global Leadership Award June 2012 from the US-India Business Council, the Lloyds Banking Group Business Leader of the Year Award at The Asian Awards 2011, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year India award for 2009, Business Man of the Year 2007 from Business India and Business Leader of the Year 2009 from the Economic Times. Other awards include the 2005 Leadership Award from the American India Foundation for his, and the Mahindra Group's commitment to corporate social responsibility, and the Rajiv Gandhi Award 2004 for outstanding contribution in the business field.

Source: Mahindra Group news release

Share your input with NAEDA's OPE Dealer Council

Do you have topics or issues you would like the NAEDA OPE Dealer Council to address at its October 24th meeting? If so, contact Mike Williams or any member of the council now. Click here for contact information.

Topics to submit might include issues affecting your store due to a distributor, manufacturer and or other supplier. They might involve warranty problems, Internet problems or other management issues you face. Also, let us know if you have heard about issues other dealers have expressed to you. Be sure and include the state or province where the issues are occurring in your message so the council can know if it is a local, state, provincial or national issue.

The council wants to know about issues affecting your dealership so it can address them directly and help get them resolved.

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NAEDA, Association & Program Partner News

KPA introduces new onsite HR Consulting Service

Sometimes Human Resources is seen as just another drag on a dealership's bottom line. But what if your HR department could actually improve the profitability of your dealership?

We find that a typical dealer's HR staff is drowning in a sea of compliance requirements, personnel files and payroll duties. When their phones stop ringing for 10 minutes and they can chat with us, we can tell they're smart people and would like to be more strategic. But who's got the time?

HR managers can boost their dealerships' profits by hiring and retaining great people. HR is also one of the departments that protects the dealership from financial losses due to lawsuits and fines. The key is providing HR with the time to focus on these important activities.

read more...

Source: KPA online

NAEDA's Discount Freight Select Services Program

Saving dealers money and time

NAEDA's Discount Freight Select Services Program

is experiencing significant growth as dealers look for assistance in managing their freight operations. After experiencing a 40% increase in the 1st Quarter 2012, Select Services activity as increased by 154% in April and 10.2% in May 2012.

PartnerShip's Select Services program includes the following features to assist dealers:

• Deep discounted LTL rates - check customer invoices and send quote back

- Access to PartnerShip.com showing special customized rates for all carriers we use so customer can make their choice. (YRC, Con-way, UPS Freight, FedEx Freight, etc.)
- Dedicated sales person for all services provided by PartnerShip.
- Consolidated monthly invoicing no matter how many carriers are used.
- Flexible payment options. Visa, M/C, AMEX, or check.
- Customized routing management, we will contact your vendors to maximize your inbound discounted shipments. If FREE freight is offered, that will take precedents.
- One call to PartnerShip for shipment questions, quotes, issue resolution, expedited shipments, billing, for either small pak or LTL shipments.

In addition, a California Office opened in Irvine in 2010 to better assist dealers on in the Western US. A new marketing call campaign to promote the Select Services program will begin on a regional basis in cooperation with NAEDA and the regional affiliates.

To sign up for NAEDA PartnerShip Select Service call 800-599-2902 or sales@PartnerShip.com

Managing Employee "Smart" Devices in the Dealership

Don't let BYOD (bring your own device) become LFYO (liability for your organization)

"BYOD" stands for "bring your own device," the practice of allowing employees and contractors to use personal devices, such as laptops, smartphones, home computers and tablets, to conduct the organization's business.

The May 2012 Juniper survey shows that nearly nine out of ten business users, often referred to as "prosumers", say they use their personal mobile device to access critical work information. This trend demonstrates a blurring of personal and professional technologies and creates significant concerns for management because it raises the question of liability. Many employees circumvent their employers' official mobile device policies in the practice of BYOD, and the practice also leads to more frequent security breaches due to lost or stolen personal devices.

For these reasons and others, a thoughtfully drafted BYOD policy should:

- · Address ownership and control of business data,
- Privacy expectations for personal data
- Security requirements
- Procedures for lost and stolen devices
- Exit procedures
- Consequences for violations of the policy.

Is a "NO BYOD" policy the answer? Perhaps, but consider that according to the same survey, 41% of over 4,000 mobile device users admitted to using their personal device for business purposes without company support, so having a policy addressing this issue is critical for reducing your business' liability.

Source: KPA

Online registration open for GIE+EXPO 2012

Online registration is now open for the 2012 GIE+EXPO (Green Industry & Equipment Expo), which will be held in Louisville October 24-26. Dealers are encouraged to register here.

Facebook, Twitter and YouTube User Guide Available

Social media is all about building relationships, a key component in NAEDA's mission to forge a partnership between dealers, farmers and consumers. It is based upon something NAEDA has been doing for generations; having conversations. Social media is nothing more than the conversations we are having online and the tools used to enhance them. This includes Facebook, Twitter and YouTube as starters.

NAEDA entered the world of social media on behalf of North American equipment dealers with a goal to share the news and views of the honest and hard-working individuals who help feed the world and to give the average consumer another way to communicate with equipment dealers. You can find us (NAEDA) at: www.naeda.com.

While NAEDA can speak on behalf of its members, there is no message that rings truer than that which comes from members themselves to their customers.

NAEDA wishes to thank the Ohio Farm Bureau for making their initial *Discover your Social Web: An Ohio Farm Bureau Guide to Social Media* publicly available. They were hoping to make it a valuable tool to Ohio Farm Bureau members, but little did they know the guide would become so quickly shared and distributed through not only Ohio, but the entire nation.

In the spirit of the social media habit of sharing, Ohio Farm Bureau has authorized NAEDA to copy, distribute and share this guide under some conditions. So, some graphics used in this copy of the guide are theirs and some have been inserted by NAEDA specifically for equipment dealer members.

Please enjoy the guide and share it with family, friends and strangers alike. But first, use it to join the online conversation and provide your unique point of view to the collective conscience. NAEDA again thanks the Ohio Farm Bureau for their permission to utilize their initial guide as a resource for dealers to learn more about using social media.

To download a copy of the Facebook, Twitter and YouTube guide, click here.

Canadian News

Canadian inflation rate falls to 1.3 per cent in July

Canada's annual inflation rate fell unexpectedly in July, pulled lower by falling energy prices as Statistics Canada reported consumer prices were up just 1.3 per cent from a year ago. The softer-than-expected report Friday buys the Bank of Canada even more time to keep interest rates low, analysts say.

read more...

Source: The Star

Canadian economy operating below its potential, Flaherty says

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said the level of the Canadian economy is below its potential as the country faces challenges such as Europe's debt crisis, a weak recovery in the U.S. and slowing growth in emerging markets. Flaherty, speaking to reporters in Ottawa, said the global economy remains "stubbornly fragile" and finding solutions to sustain the global recovery has become a challenge.

read more...

Source: The Star

Canada dollar rallies to 3-1/2-month high

The Canadian dollar climbed to a three-and-a-half-month-high against the U.S. dollar on Tuesday, tracking global equities, commodities and other commodity-driven currencies higher as a stream of encouraging headlines lifted sentiment.

read more...

Source: Reuters Canada

Harper and Merkel, discuss trade agreement between Canada and the EU

Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his German counterpart presented a united front on Thursday as they plugged Canada's free trade talks with the European Union and advocated for a long-term solution for Europe's financial crisis – not the politically expedient solution. Harper and German Chancellor Angela Merkel held up the pending Canada-EU trade negotiations as key for economic growth in both countries and the EU as a whole.

read more...

Source: O Canada

Northern resources could turn Canada into economic powerhouse: Stephen Harper

Prime Minister Stephen Harper suggested Monday the pace of oil and gas development in the North could increase exponentially in the coming years and that could feed money into the local and national economies. The untapped oil, natural gas and mining resources in the North could bring billions in revenues and investment, according to some estimates, and Harper went so far as to predict that cash could turn Canada into an economic powerhouse.

read more...

Source: The Vancouver Sun

Export manufacturers count on U.S., emerging markets for growth: Conference Board

Canada's export-dependent manufacturing sector continues to face challenges and is counting on emerging markets and recovery in the United States to sustain growth, according to a new study released Tuesday. The study, published by the Conference Board of Canada in association with the Business Development Bank of Canada, says the ongoing financial crisis in Europe is the biggest cloud on the horizon for Canadian manufacturers.

read more...

Source: Canadian Business



August Tip of the Month: When It's Really Hot, How Much Should You Drink?

We all know that drinking enough fluids is an essential part of staying safe during the summer. But exactly how much water is enough, especially when it's really hot? And does it really matter what you drink, or when?

Find out more at http://blog.kpaonline.com/category/tipofthemonth/

Free KPA Webinars

Social Signals: How to Use the Most Important Convergence of Search and Social - August 29, 2012

Ask the Experts: All your Human Resource Questions Answered - August 30, 2012

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