New Trade Regulations Take Effect Across Multiple Countries! U.S. Import Volumes Surge as New Restrictions Emerge in the U.S. and Europe — Sellers Must Pay Close Attention

Hello to all our foreign trade and cross-border e-commerce seller friends!

As the window for stocking up ahead of the overseas peak season approaches, global trade policies have seen a flurry of changes this week, bringing both opportunities and risks. U.S. ocean freight import data has risen sharply, while testing bans, new rules for low-value shipments, and anti-dumping measures are emerging one after another. The EU and the UK are also considering trade remedy instruments and anti-dumping duties, while several Southeast Asian countries are updating customs requirements and product market-entry rules. Meanwhile, the central bank has clarified its latest position on the RMB exchange rate, providing a reference for foreign exchange settlement and quotation planning. Let's take a look at this week's key foreign trade updates.

01 Exchange Rates

On October 8, the central bank publicly clarified China's RMB exchange-rate policy: China operates a managed floating exchange-rate system based on

market supply and demand, with reference to a basket of currencies, and maintains the decisive role of the market in exchange-rate formation.

The central bank does not set a predetermined exchange-rate target or intervene in the long-term trend of the exchange rate, and it preserves two-way exchange-rate flexibility. The policy focus is on preventing sharp, excessive short-term fluctuations and maintaining financial stability. It also made clear that China neither intends nor needs to rely on currency depreciation to gain an export-competitiveness advantage.

👉**Seller Tip:** For large orders with long quotation validity periods or extended order cycles, consider implementing foreign-exchange risk hedging. Do not make one-sided bets on exchange-rate movements. Maintain a neutral approach to exchange-rate risk management and lock in profits.

02 Global Trade and Economic Environment

According to data from the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), the global trade friction index remained elevated at 102 in July 2024. Machinery and equipment, as well as the electronics industry, were areas with frequent trade friction, with the electronics industry recording the highest conflict index. Exporters of electromechanical products and 3C products (computers, communications, and consumer electronics) should continue to monitor foreign technical barriers to trade.

In logistics, Descartes released a report on October 8 stating that total U.S. ocean containerized imports reached 2.5463 million TEU in September 2026, up 10.3% year on year and setting a record for the month of September. U.S. container imports from China reached 924,500 TEU, surging 21.2% year on year and accounting for 36.3% of total U.S. imports that month, making China the main driver of the increase. Peak-season order demand is strong, but various regulatory measures and trade restrictions are tightening at the same time.

03 U.S. Market

FCC Plans to Prohibit Testing by Chinese Laboratories for Electronic Products Exported to the United States. The FCC is scheduled to vote on October 29 on a proposal to prohibit laboratories in China from issuing test reports for electronic products such as mobile phones, cameras, and computers. The ban is expected to take effect in December 2028. The FCC has previously prohibited laboratories controlled by the Chinese government.

👉 **Tip:** Sellers of 3C and digital electronic products should plan testing channels in advance and secure the necessary compliance qualifications to avoid their products being unable to enter the U.S. market later.

CBP Plans New Import Rules for Low-Value Shipments. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plans to revise simplified customs entry rules for low-value

shipments (with a declared value of USD 2,500 or less), adding requirements such as electronic filing, customs bonds, and compensation for violations.

👉**Tip:** Sellers using small-parcel shipping to the United States, cross-border e-commerce sellers fulfilling orders themselves, and B2B sellers handling small orders of low-value goods may face more extensive documentation requirements, higher customs clearance costs, and increased compliance risks. Continue to monitor when the draft rules will be finalized and implemented.

Preliminary Anti-Dumping Determination on Truck Bed Covers Issued. On September 29, the U.S. Department of Commerce issued a preliminary determination finding dumping margins of 46.95%–107.58% for truck bed covers from China. The final determination is expected on February 15, 2027. The corresponding U.S. customs tariff code is 8708.29.5160.

👉**Tip:** Relevant automotive parts exporters should calculate potential duty costs in advance, assess quotation levels and order profitability, and actively prepare to respond to the investigation.

04 European Market

Some EU Member States are urging the European Commission to develop a European version of a “Section 301” trade instrument. China has stated that it

will closely monitor subsequent developments and firmly safeguard the rights and interests of domestic enterprises if discriminatory restrictions are introduced. The risk of trade investigations and technical barriers in the European market may continue to rise.

The UK Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) has recommended imposing an ad valorem anti-dumping duty of up to 63.66% on Chinese rutile titanium dioxide (titanium dioxide pigment), for a period of five years. Titanium dioxide is widely used in the coatings, plastics, and paper industries. Exporters across the relevant upstream and downstream supply chains should assess the cost implications for orders destined for the UK market in advance.

05 Southeast Asian Markets

Malaysia: No Manifest, No Loading. Hapag-Lloyd is implementing new requirements at Malaysian ports: at Northport and Westports in Port Klang, as well as Port of Tanjung Pelepas, cargo may not be loaded without a valid K5 export manifest / K6 transshipment manifest. The SI (Shipping Instructions) cut-off is no longer calculated based on the vessel's estimated time of departure (ETD). Instead, SI must be submitted 48 hours before the vessel's estimated time of arrival (ETA) at the port. The rule applies to both export and transshipment cargo.

👉**Tip:** For cargo shipped directly to Malaysia or transshipped via Malaysia, confirm the SI cut-off with your freight forwarder well in advance to avoid missing the documentation cut-off and having the container rolled.

New Import Rules for Telecommunications Equipment in Cambodia. In an announcement dated September 22, Cambodia's Telecommunication Regulator (TRC) prohibited the import of used or counterfeit telecommunications equipment, including mobile phones, routers, tablets, walkie-talkies, and network hardware. Companies must complete rectification by November 21, 2026. Products must be brand-new and authorized, and equipment must have a Type Approval (TA) certificate. Importers must hold QA agent qualifications or an IP import permit.

👉**Tip:** Sellers of telecommunications and digital equipment exporting to Cambodia should verify certification and qualification requirements in advance. Used equipment is prohibited from export.

06 China's Domestic Export Policies

According to a notice from the Ministry of Commerce, the online application system for 2027 export licences for automobiles and motorcycles opened on September 30, 2026. Enterprises requiring export licences should complete their online applications on time and ensure that their export operations are conducted in a compliant manner.

07 Sellers' Action Checklist for This Week

☑ **Sellers of 3C and digital products: Track the proposed FCC testing ban in the United States and plan product testing arrangements in advance.**

☑ **Automotive parts, titanium dioxide, and other affected sectors: Monitor the dates of final anti-dumping determinations in Europe and the United States, and calculate product costs.**

☑ **Cargo destined for Malaysia: Adjust the SI submission schedule and use 48 hours before the vessel's ETA as the cut-off to avoid container rollover.**

☑ **Telecommunications equipment exported to Cambodia: Complete compliance rectification by November 21 and do not ship used equipment.**

☑ **Orders with long lead times: Manage foreign-exchange risks to prevent exchange-rate fluctuations from eroding profits.**

☑ **Automobile and motorcycle exporters: Expedite completion of the 2027 export licence application process.**

For international trade, policy awareness comes first. During peak-season stocking, overseas tariffs, compliance requirements, and customs regulations are changing frequently. Staying up to date with policy developments is essential to avoid pitfalls and keep orders on track.

We will continue to monitor new developments in tariffs, customs regulations, and trade barriers across countries. Please feel free to share this update with colleagues and partners involved in foreign trade and cross-border business.

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