

Cross-border E-commerce Newsletter

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1. CHINA BUSINESS

China's GDP expands 5.5 pct in H1

China's gross domestic product (GDP) grew 5.5 percent year on year in the first half (H1) of 2023, data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) showed on July 17.

China's GDP reached 59.3 trillion yuan (about 8.3 trillion U.S. dollars) in the first half, NBS data showed.

In the second quarter, the country's GDP expanded 6.3 percent year on year, according to the NBS.

(Source: Xinhua)

China-Africa trade index debuts, indicating strong growth

The China-Africa Trade Index, based on trade-indicator data between China and African countries, was released for the first time at the opening of the third China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo on June 29.

The statistics show that China's trade with Africa rose from less than 100 billion yuan in 2000 to 1.88 trillion yuan in 2022, posting a cumulative increase of more than 20 times, with an average annual growth rate of 17.7 percent.

In the first five months of 2023, China's total import and export volume with Africa reached 822.32 billion yuan (113.5 billion U.S. dollars), up 16.4 percent year on year, according to the administration's data.

(Source: Xinhua)

China issues over 2.47 mln certificates of origin

Over 2.47 million certificates of origin, involving 202.16 billion U.S. dollars, were issued by Chinese authorities from January 1 to June 25 of 2023, official data showed on June 30.

This shows that the dividend of tariff reduction has been gradually released, Yang Fan, spokesperson for the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, told a press conference.

Some 92,700 certificates of origin were issued by Chinese authorities under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) free trade agreement, up 72.73 percent year on year, and they involve approximately 3.22 billion dollars.

The certificates are expected to reduce tariffs by 48 million U.S. dollars for Chinese products in RCEP importing countries, Yang said.

(Source: Xinhua)

China to ban imports of food products from Fukushima in Japan

China will ban imports of food products from Fukushima and nine other prefectures in Japan, in order to prevent contaminated food from entering the country and protect Chinese consumers, the General Administration of Customs (GAC) said on July 7.

The report of the International Atomic Energy Agency reviewing Japan's plan to discharge nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean, did not fully reflect the views of all the experts involved in the assessment, an official with the GAC said.

Supervision will be strengthened for food products, especially aquatic products, from other parts of Japan, the official said, adding that the GAC will beef up detection and monitoring measures for radioactive substances and strictly prevent imports of products posing contamination risks.

(Source: Xinhua)

China-Australia H1 trade up 16.4% amid joint efforts for improved ties

China-Australia trade grew significantly during the first half, indicating a steady improvement in economic relations, while efforts to address trade matters, including tariffs on barley, remain in progress.

Data released by the General Administration of Customs of China on July 13 showed that total bilateral trade hit 800 billion yuan (\$111.7 billion), up 16.4 percent year-on-year between January and June, with an upbeat trend for major products such as iron ore and coal.

Speaking at a regular press conference, Shu Jueting, spokesperson of the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) said that the ministry is willing to work with Australia to continue to properly resolve economic and trade concerns in the spirit of dialogue, consultation and cooperation.

Amid improved relations, exports of Australian coal gradually resumed and picked up, and timber shipments resumed in May. Other products such as beef are also coming to China.

(Source: Global Times)

China imports wild anchovy products from Kenya

A total of 315 kg of dried wild anchovy from Kenya were transported to the Changsha Huanghua International Airport in central China's Hunan Province on June 26, marking that China imported wild anchovy products from the African country for the first time.

Huang Caixin, director of the import and export food safety department of the Changsha Customs, said Kenyan dried anchovy is a new African product that Changsha Customs has participated in promoting to import, which is conducive to promoting the import of more high-quality African food and agricultural products, enriching the choices of domestic consumers, and boosting the trade between China and Africa.

According to customs statistics, African agricultural exports to China have grown rapidly in recent years, and China has now become the second-largest destination country for African agricultural exports. In the first five months of this year, China imported 16.15 billion yuan (about 2.24 billion U.S. dollars) of African agricultural and food products, up 26.5 percent year on year.

(Source: Xinhua)

China and Africa sign 26.2 billion yuan agreements

Government and business representatives from China and Africa signed agreements worth 26.2 billion yuan (\$3.61 billion) for in-depth cooperative pilot zone projects on June 30 in Changsha, the capital of Central China's province, according to the organizer of the third China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo.

These signed projects encompass a wide range of sectors, such as the import of Madagascan lamb, the establishment of a China-Africa agricultural product e-commerce platform, the development of the China-Africa cashew industrial chain and the creation of a Hunan industrial park within a national economic zone in Namibia.

(Source: China Daily)

Commercial metropolis Guangzhou leads China's overseas trade

Guangdong 21st Century Maritime Silk Road International Expo was held in Guangzhou early June, attracted over 1,000 participating companies and generated deals worth nearly 2 billion yuan (around 279 million U.S. dollars).

Guangzhou, as an important node in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, drives the Belt and Road Initiative constantly. The Nansha Port in Guangzhou has become an important economic and trade hub in the south of

China, connecting with 151 foreign trade routes, including 124 routes to the countries along the Belt and Road.

Moreover, the Pazhou artificial intelligence and digital economy pilot zone in Guangzhou has attracted leading enterprises such as Tencent, Alibaba, and Vipshop, promoting the development of e-commerce, industrial internet, big data, and digital creativity.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's largest land port sees record railway freight volume

Manzhouli, China's largest land port, handled more than 10 million tonnes of imports and exports in the first half of this year, up 46.1 percent year on year, marking a record high for the period, according to China Railway Harbin Bureau Group Co., Ltd.

The port in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region has seen robust growth in its traffic volume since the beginning of this year.

So far, it has handled a maximum of 28 trains in a single day, eight of which were outbound trains, said Liu Huichao, deputy head of the Manzhouli railway station.

(Source: Xinhua)

2. CHINA'S E-COMMERCE INDUSTRY

China's cross-border e-commerce trade value exceeds 2 trln yuan in 2022

The value of China's cross-border e-commerce imports and exports exceeded 2 trillion yuan (about 280.55 billion U.S. dollars) for the first time in 2022, reaching 2.1 trillion yuan and marking an increase of 7.1 percent compared with 2021, according to a report released by China's General Administration of Customs (GAC) on June 17.

Among the export destinations in China's cross-border e-commerce in 2022, the United States accounted for 34.3 percent of the market and the United Kingdom accounted for 6.5 percent. Major export items included clothing, shoes, bags and electronic products. Japanese products accounted for 21.7 percent of China's total cross-border e-commerce imports in 2022, while U.S. products accounted for 17.9 percent.

Consumer goods constituted 92.8 percent of the exports and 98.3 percent of the imports, according to the report.

Since the beginning of this year, China's cross-border e-commerce has continued to maintain its growth momentum, said Lyu Daliang, an official with the GAC. "A GAC survey has shown that more than 70 percent of enterprises expect stable or growing cross-border e-commerce in 2023," said Lyu.

(Source: Xinhua)

Achievements in building a digital China

Solid progress has been made in building a digital China last year, according to the Digital China Development Report (2022) issued by the Cyberspace Administration of China.

- By the end of 2022, China put 2.31 million 5G base stations into operation, and the number of 5G users reached 561 million, accounting for more than 60% of the world's total.
- By the end of 2022, China had 1.07 billion internet users, with an internet penetration rate of 75.6%.
- In 2022, China's data output rose 22.7% year-on-year to 8.1 zettabytes, accounting for 10.5% of the world's total and ranking second globally.
- Revenue of the software business surpassed 10 trillion yuan.
- Online retail sales reached 13.79 trillion yuan.
- Number of digital reading users: 530 million.
- 715 million people had digital social security cards.
- The scale of China's big data industry reached 1.57 trillion yuan, up 18% year-on-year.
- Total R&D investment of China's top 100 internet companies by market value: 338.4 billion yuan.

(Source: China Daily)

Chinese e-commerce exporters ready to face potential end of US'

'de minimis' package rule

The US is considering to end current tariff exemptions for packages valued under \$800, which is seen as a move to crack down on the large amount of goods imported from China in duty-free packages.

Chinese e-commerce exporters said that they are ready to face challenges brought about by the potential US move, while stressing that US consumers will finally have to bear the additional costs, which will add new burden to the current high inflation in the country.

According to a report by the Associated Press, US conservatives have set their sights on a top trade priority: cracking down on the deluge of duty-free packages coming in from China. Under current US law, most imports valued at less than \$800 enter duty-free into the US as long as they are packaged and addressed to individual buyers. It's referred to as the "de minimis" rule.

(Source: Global Times)

Platforms including JD.com, Tmall report brisk sales for mid-year online shopping festival

Major Chinese e-commerce platforms including JD.com and Taobao have reported brisk sales during this year's 618 mid-year promotion gala, with domestic brands, summery items and consumer electronics sales going through the roof amid a record level of subsidies.

Domestic leading e-commerce platform JD.com, which initiated the mid-year promotional event 20 years ago, said as the festival enters its climax, some 30 percent of domestic brands reported sales increases of more than 100 percent compared with a year earlier in the first 10 minutes of June 18. The company's cloud service is witnessing a surge in user visits by 119 percent year-on-year, underlining the strong consumer atmosphere.

On Alibaba's e-commerce marketplace Tmall, a total of 305 brands saw sales hit the 100 million yuan (\$14.03 million) mark in the wee hours of June 18. Moreover, a fleet of 2.56 million small and medium-sized vendors had seen their sales revenues surpass the levels of 2022 as of June 18.

Another 1.18 million smaller vendors, including 680,000 whose cooperation with the Tmall platform is less than three months old, realized sales of over 10,000 yuan.

Tmall said that 5 million new vendors had come to its platform before June this year, with the past few months seeing an accelerated pace. In the past year, more

young people had opened shops on its platforms, and the number of those who were younger than 23 reached 1.3 million.

(Source: Global Times)

Tianjin's cross-border e-commerce trade tops 902 mln USD in H1

North China's port city of Tianjin reported a total cross-border e-commerce trade volume of around 6.52 billion yuan (about 902.3 million U.S. dollars) in the first half of 2023, up 2.95 percent year on year, according to the municipal commerce commission.

During the period, more than 2.06 billion yuan of imports and nearly 4.46 billion yuan of exports were carried out via the city's official cross-border e-commerce comprehensive service platform, marking an increase of 2.28 percent and 3.27 percent year on year, respectively, the commission said.

With a focus on building itself into an international consumption center city, Tianjin has utilized the advantage of cross-border e-commerce trade with innovative supervisory models in order to better meet people's personalized consumption needs and promote consumption upgrades and changes in consumption patterns.

(Source: Xinhua)

Cross-border e-commerce drives foreign trade in NE China

Hunchun, a small city located at China's border with Russia and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In 2017, the city started its exploration in the cross-border e-commerce sector by establishing a dedicated service platform. In the following years, a comprehensive bonded zone was opened and an integrated pilot zone for cross-border e-commerce was established, gradually forming an industry cluster.

Now, Hunchun is one of the pacesetters for opening up in Jilin. The import and export value of cross-border e-commerce of the city had increased from 40 million yuan in 2018 to 2.15 billion yuan in 2021, with trade partners covering 72 countries and regions.

The Hunchun Northeast Asia Cross-border E-commerce Industrial Park, opened in 2022, has become a new driving force for promoting foreign trade. Consisting of a commodity sales exhibition zone, a livestreaming base and other facilities, it has attracted 119 enterprises to settle there.

In 2022, the total trade value of these companies exceeded 6 billion yuan, with cross-border e-commerce business contributing 3.52 billion yuan.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's digital payment services see global expansion in 2022

China's digital payment sector expanded last year to cover more global clients and shore up the domestic real economy, according to a report by China UnionPay, the country's largest bank card payment processor.

In 2022, online payment services provided by China Unionpay extended to over 22 million clients in over 200 countries and regions overseas, said the annual report on the development of China's bank card industry.

Over 41 million people across China received consumption vouchers from China Unionpay's payment app last year, which brought about transactions worth nearly 50 billion yuan (about 6.9 billion U.S. dollars).

The company's offline payment network reached out to 38 million corporate clients in 181 countries and regions worldwide, as Chinese payment companies sought to enhance their global presence through means such as creating cross-border payment products and services, the report revealed.

(Source: Xinhua)

Online festival brings African products to China

Aiming at further deepening economic and trade cooperation between China and Africa, as well as promoting the sale of African products in the country, the Online Shopping Festival Featuring Quality African Products kicked off in Yuhua district within the Changsha Area of China (Hunan) Pilot Free Trade Zone.

African products are being sold through livestreaming on popular short-video platform Douyin. There will be more than 100 livestreaming promotional events by time the online shopping festival concludes. So Chinese buyers can have easy and quick access to white wine from South Africa, coffee beans from Ethiopia, and African drums from Guinea.

German market intelligence platform Statista estimated that 388 million people in Africa were shopping online until last year, and the figure is forecast to rise to 600 million by 2027.

(Source: China Daily)

China's e-commerce giant Alibaba appoints new Chairman, CEO

Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group announced on June 20 that Joseph Tsai, currently executive vice chairman, will succeed Daniel Zhang as chairman of the company.

According to the group, Eddie Wu, the present chairman of Alibaba's e-commerce platform Taobao and Tmall Group, will succeed Daniel Zhang as Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Both appointments will take effect on Sept. 10 this year.

(Source: Xinhua)

Sales of sun protective clothing surge as sweltering heat waves

linger in China

As the sweltering heat waves linger in large swaths of China, sales of sun protective clothing and other products have kept spiking. Data from e-commerce platforms showed that consumers from South China's Guangdong Province, Beijing and East China's Jiangsu Province had purchased the largest volume of sun protective equipment. Sun-blocking jackets, face masks and sleeves saw a 50 percent jump in sales. While the transaction value of sun protective clothing surged by 180 percent year-on-year.

For the overseas market, demand for cooling appliances has soared recently. Shenzhen customs data showed that exports value of electric fans from Shenzhen reached 13.55 billion yuan, up 27 percent year-on-year so far this year. Exports to the European Union market alone has reached 2.14 billion yuan, up 64 percent year-on-year, the report said.

(Source: Global Times)

3. RECOMMENDED EXHIBITIONS

China International Supply Chain Expo (CISCE)

Date: Nov.28th – Dec.2nd , 2023

Location: China International Exhibition Center (Shunyi Venue) , Beijing

Host: China Council for the Promotion of International Trade

Organizer: China International Exhibition Center Group Limited

5 Supply Chains : Smart Vehicle, Green Agriculture, Clean Energy, Digital Technology, Healthy Life

Exhibition Area: Modern Logistics

Services Exhibition: Include banking, insurance, trade consulting, commercial law, culture and education, tourism services, and creative design, etc.

One Summit: The Global Supply Chain Innovation and Development Summit.

Five Themed Sub-forums: Each focusing on one of the five major chains, i.e. Smart Vehicle, Green Agriculture, Clean Energy, Healthy Life, and Digital Technology.

One Flagship Report: The Global Supply Chain Promotion Report.

Side Events: Investment and financing salons, policy interpretation seminars, technical seminars, new product releases, matchmaking and business signing ceremonies, etc.

For more information:

<https://en.cisce.org.cn/>

The 4th China On-Line International Fair & Matchmakings of Food & Agro-Products (CIFFA)

Date: May 29th -Nov 29th, 2023

Form: Virtual Exhibition & Promotion Meetings & 1:1 negotiations

Organizer: China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) Information Center

Exhibit Category: Grain and staple food, Vegetables and fruits, Meat and seafood (fresh / frozen), Milk and dairy product, Wine and beverage, Snack food, Healthy food, Edible oil, Other related products

Introduction: CIFFA will promote exhibitors' products through multiple channels at home and abroad, and will also organize promotion meetings and one-on-one negotiations between exhibitors and buyers, providing a platform for exhibitors to connect with global buyers and expand their international business.

Registration: ciffa.fastexpo.cn

Contact: zhaotian@itc.ccpit.org

4. BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OFFER | Coal, mechanical equipment

Company Profile

HARBIN LONGTENG NEW MATERIAL TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD was established in July 2021. It will rely on the unique resources in China, take advantage of the policy of the free trade zone, Leveraging the many years of experience in the industry of Daqing Gaoxin International Industry and Trading Co., Ltd, with the advantage of our overseas sales branch and mature sales team to integrate the product resources of the industry chain in China. It could promote and sell the products overseas with the help of its channel resources in Korea, Japan, CIS, Europe, the Middle East and the United States markets.

At present, the company is increasing trade business with Russia and has signed agreements with Russian oil, Russian gas and tower oil import. And it's negotiating with other refineries in Russia. The company uses settlement currencies of RMB and Ruble, and the annual import trade volume in 2022 is expected at 800 million RMB.

Trade Cooperation

The products involved in our company's import and export business are: petroleum coke, calcined coke, needle coke; Russian coal; aluminum raw materials, steel raw materials; semiconductor equipment, machine tool equipment, engineering vehicles and special vehicles.

BUSINESS OFFER | Leisure food

Company Profile

Hainan Najia Trading Co., Ltd., established in Sanya, Hainan Province in August 2020, trading enterprise engaged in the sales and export of leisure food. It is planned to work together with our partner Uncle Pop Company to build a world famous brand of domestic famous Uncle Pop brands.

Uncle Pop was established in 1997, mainly engaged in the production of leisure foods(snacks). It is a modern enterprise integrating R&D(research and production) and Sales.Uncle Pop Food, a firm integrating Food manufacturing and Sales, is located at the Guang Han City . Uncle Pop Food has more than 3000 employees covering about 200 acres of land in production with ten subsidiaries and holding companies.

Product Catalog

At present, the main products are seven series of products, Rice and wheat cracker, Egg rolls, waffle, filling multi-grain cracker, biscuit, pastry and special festival snacks. All of them are very popular in both domestic and overseas markets.

INVESTMENT | Russian Wooden Furniture Processing Plant for sale

Company Profile

The wooden furniture processing plant is strategically located in central Smolensk Oblast, Russia, close to the Minsk-Moscow highway. Benefiting from its advantageous geographical position, the plant offers convenient transportation access.

Production Facilities and Capabilities

The plant is equipped with comprehensive circular production facilities, enabling efficient and streamlined wood processing operations. With a primary focus on birch wood furniture, the factory processes and exports its products to various destinations worldwide. It boasts six processing units, including:

1. **Main Production Facilities:** These units serve as the core hub for wood processing, ensuring high-quality outputs.
2. **Drying Kilns:** Equipped with advanced drying technology, the kilns facilitate the drying process for the wood, enhancing its quality and durability.
3. **Material Warehouses:** These spacious storage facilities ensure an ample supply of raw materials, supporting uninterrupted production.
4. **Boiler Rooms:** The plant features dedicated boiler rooms to provide the necessary heat and energy required for the wood processing operations.
5. **Mobile Grates:** These movable grates aid in efficient material handling and contribute to the overall productivity of the processing units.
6. **Sawmills:** The sawmills are equipped with cutting-edge equipment to precisely transform raw wood into desired shapes and sizes.

For the contacts of the above or more business opportunities, please send the following information to tradeinvest@itc.ccpit.org:

- (1) Company name, main business, product catalogue, etc.
- (2) Scanned copy of business license
- (3) Contact person and contact information
- (4) Interested products and business projects

THE CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE NEWSLETTER, initiated by the Department of Industry Promotion of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) and compiled by CCPIT Information Center, provides information regarding Chinese trade policy watch, industry update and business opportunities in China. It caters to the needs of international e-commerce companies, import & export trade dealers, foreign embassies, chambers of commerce and industry of all countries who are seeking biz updates and trade opportunities.

Welcome to subscribe **FREE** to our newsletter at zhaotian@itc.ccpit.org.

Newly Released!

FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS IN CHINA 2023

China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) has recently released the Chinese and English bilingual edition of **FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS IN CHINA 2023**.



Since 1995, CCPIT has compiled and printed the Chinese and English bilingual annual report of Fairs and Exhibitions in China every year, and published information about major economic and trade exhibitions to be held in China that year, providing a significant reference for enterprises to participate in the exhibitions or EXPOs held in China and have been welcomed by embassies, consulates, trade associations and enterprises in China throughout the years.

FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS IN CHINA 2023 is coordinated by the Department of Industry Promotion of CCPIT and compiled by CCPIT Information Center.

If you need the **FREE electronic version** of the book, welcome to send us an email of request at zhaotian@itc.ccpit.org.