

Cross-border E-commerce Newsletter

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Contents:

- ◆ Export sector performance exceeds expectations
- ◆ China's international trade in goods, services up 2% in June
- ◆ China extends tariff exemptions on certain U.S. goods until February 2025
- ◆ China's industrial profits up 3.5 pct in H1
- ◆ China rolls out action plan on boosting domestic consumption
- ◆ Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region logs record foreign trade in H1
- ◆ China's Xizang sees robust foreign trade growth in H1
- ◆ China, Africa move to strengthen digital cooperation
- ◆ China's cross-border e-commerce trade posts solid growth
- ◆ China's e-commerce sector reports robust growth
- ◆ China's trade with emerging markets continue to grow
- ◆ China's e-commerce: deepening international cooperation
- ◆ **[RECOMMENDED EXHIBITIONS]**
 - the ASEAN Plus Three (10+3) Industrial Chain and Supply Chain Partnering Conference
- ◆ **[Business Opportunities]**
 - BUSINESS OFFER | Mechanical Equipment and Components
 - BUSINESS OFFER | Auto Parts
 - BUSINESS OFFER | New Chemical Materials
 - BUSINESS OFFER | Green Agriculture

1. CHINA BUSINESS

Export sector performance exceeds expectations

China's export sector saw a better-than-expected performance in the first seven months of the year as overseas demand remained on a steady growth trajectory, fueled by the strong competitiveness of Chinese products across various sectors.

The goods trade volume expanded 6.2 percent year-on-year to 24.83 trillion yuan (\$3.46 trillion) in the January-July period, data released on Aug 7 by the General Administration of Customs showed. Exports rose 6.7 percent, while imports climbed 5.4 percent.

The sustained strength of external demand has provided a solid foundation for China's thriving export performance during this period, as developed economies continue their rebound and developing nations expand their markets. Stronger steps should be taken to facilitate the development of cross-border e-commerce and overseas warehouses and provide enterprises with new avenues to penetrate overseas markets and reach global consumers.

(Source: China Daily)

China's international trade in goods, services up 2% in June

The value of China's international trade in goods and services reached about 4 trillion yuan in June 2024, marking an increase of 2 percent year on year, official data showed on July 26th.

The export value of goods reached 1.93 trillion yuan while the import value of goods totaled 1.53 trillion yuan, resulting in a surplus of 405.2 billion yuan.

The value of exported services amounted to 212.5 billion yuan and the value of imported services stood at 328 billion yuan, producing a deficit of 115.5 billion yuan.

Transport was the biggest contributor to services trade, with its trade value totaling 158.6 billion yuan, followed by travel services, according to the administration.

(Source: China Daily)

China extends tariff exemptions on certain U.S. goods until February

2025

China will continue to exempt certain U.S. goods from additional tariffs until the end of February 2025, the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council said on July 19th.

According to a previous statement issued in December last year, certain items from the United States were excluded from the tariff countermeasures against the U.S. Section 301 measures until July 31, 2024.

After the extension, the exemption will last until Feb. 28, 2025, the commission said in a statement.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's industrial profits up 3.5 pct in H1

Profits of China's major industrial firms increased 3.5 percent year on year in the first six months of the year, official data showed on July 27th. Industrial firms with an annual main business revenue of at least 20 million yuan (about 2.81 million U.S. dollars) saw their combined profits reach 3.51 trillion yuan in the first half of the year.

(Source: Xinhua)

Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region logs record foreign trade in H1

Foreign trade in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region logged a historic high in the first half of this year, data from the statistics bureaus shows on July 16th.

The region saw its foreign trade increase by 4.6 percent year on year to 2.54 trillion yuan (around 356.9 billion U.S. dollars) in the first six months of this year, up 4.6 percent year on year.

Of the total, exports rose 6.4 percent year on year to 673.87 billion yuan, while imports reached 1.87 trillion yuan, up 3.9 percent year on year. The region's foreign trade accounted for 12 percent of the country's total in the period.

Beijing, in particular, registered a total foreign trade of 1.83 trillion yuan during the period, accounting for 72 percent of the region's total.

The emerging industries continued to drive the region's export growth in the first half of this year. During the same period, exports of the new generation of information technology, medicine and health, aerospace and automotive industries increased by 18.3 percent, 16 percent, 17.3 percent and 54.6 percent, respectively, year on year.

(Source: Xinhua)

80.16 bln parcels: China's express delivery sector runs faster in H1

2024

China's courier sector handled a record number of 80.16 billion parcels during the first six months of 2024, representing a 23.1 percent growth compared to the same period last year, and the highest daily express delivery volume exceeding 580 million pieces, according to data from the country's State Post Bureau.

The rapid growth has driven the sector's operating revenue to grow by 15.1 percent year on year to 653 billion yuan (\$89.83 billion). China's courier sector has gained momentum in rural areas with wider service accessibility.

Besides, China has rapidly expanded its global logistics services. Solid strides have been made in developing international logistics hubs. In the first six months of this year, China has made steady progress in building its five international postal and express service hub clusters. Many regions have also started using or improving overseas warehouses, while the number and size of overseas warehouses run by Chinese companies have been on a steady rise, which all demonstrates the initial results in developing an international logistics hub system.

In the meantime, the country has intensified efforts to build a multidimensional logistics service network for companies seeking a stronger presence in overseas markets.

(Source: People's Daily Online)

China-Africa digital cooperation continues advancing, highlighted in infrastructure construction

China-Africa cooperation has been continuously advancing in the digital sector covering a wide range of industries from infrastructure to e-commerce, bolstered by swiftly developing technologies. South Africa is looking forward to deepening industrial applications between South Africa and China, as the country is trying to transform its industries to the new economy and new production lines.

Digital cooperation between China and South Africa has brought a lot of benefits, with many Chinese technology companies investing in South Africa and helping the country to expand in various sectors ranging from infrastructure to e-commerce.

China and 26 African countries jointly issued an Action Plan for China-Africa Digital Cooperation and Development, which was unveiled at the forum on Monday, aiming to promote cooperation and development in the digital sector. Under the plan, actions will target digital cooperation in six aspects - policy, infrastructure, innovation, transformation, security and digital capability.

(Source: Global Times)

China rolls out action plan on boosting domestic consumption

China's government laid out its priorities to spur consumer spending on Aug 3. China's ruling Communist Party in July pledged to make boosting consumption a greater policy focus at a twice-a-decade plenum on long-term reforms.

The State Council, China's cabinet, designated 20 key steps, including exploring the potential to expand basic consumption in areas such as catering, home services and elder care, according to a statement posted on the central government's website.

Authorities will also look to foster new types of spending, cultivate unmanned retail stores and self-pickup lockers, and support the development of electronic sports and live streaming e-commerce.

Under the framework, the government would enhance financing support to eligible small and micro enterprises in the service industry.

(Source: Bloomberg)

China's Xizang sees robust foreign trade growth in H1

Foreign trade in southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region surged 132.4 percent year on year in the first half (H1) of 2024, local authorities said on July 22nd.

The region's total import and export value surpassed 3.8 billion yuan (about 522.7 million U.S. dollars) during the period, with its growth rate ranking first nationwide, according to the Lhasa Customs.

Of the total, Xizang's exports grew 122.9 percent year on year to over 3.2 billion yuan, and its imports climbed to 591 million yuan, up 202 percent year on year.

During this period, Xizang saw the number of its foreign trade partners increase by 36 compared to the same period last year. Labor-intensive products and mechanical and electrical goods are the region's main foreign trade commodities.

Notably, over 90 percent of the region's foreign trade enterprises were private enterprises, contributing some 3.72 billion yuan of imports and exports, up 133.7 percent year on year.

(Source: Xinhua)

China committed to offering strict, equal IP protection for foreign innovators

China is committed to providing a fair business environment and strict intellectual property (IP) protection for foreign enterprises, said a Chinese IP official Hu Wenhui, deputy commissioner of the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA).

Hu said that the Chinese government had issued a series of guidelines and regulations, emphasizing the importance of providing equal IP protection for both domestic and foreign enterprises. He highlighted the recent updates to major IP laws, saying that the country has implemented "strict punitive measures in accordance with the highest international standards."

In terms of protection efficiency, Hu said that China has established 115 IP protection centers nationwide, with over 5,000 foreign and joint venture enterprises registered. These centers offer such enterprises the same protection services as they do to domestic enterprises.

The number of foreigners applying for patent protection in China has been increasing. In the first half of this year, foreign applicants filed 78,000 invention patent applications in China, marking year-on-year growth of 13.1 percent. Among them, Japan accounted for the highest number, followed by the United States and the Republic of Korea, said senior CNIPA official Ge Shu.

Meanwhile, the number of valid foreign invention patents and registered trademarks in China by the end of June 2024 also showed year-on-year increases of 3.9 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's commerce ministry adjusts UAV export controls

China has adjusted its export control measures on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), a spokesperson with the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said on July 31st.

The adjustment includes the revision of management standards for certain important components of UAVs, such as infrared thermal-imaging devices and target-indicating lasers, according to an MOC statement.

Additionally, high-precision inertial-measurement equipment will be included within the scope of control, while temporary controls on specific consumer-grade drones will be lifted.

Furthermore, the adjustment prohibits the export of all civilian drones that are not subject to export controls but are for use in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorist activities or military purposes.

The aforementioned policies will be effective from Sept. 1 this year. This is an update to China's UAV export control measures that have been in place for a year, according to the MOC.

(Source: People's Daily Online)

2. CHINA'S E-COMMERCE INDUSTRY

China's cross-border e-commerce trade posts solid growth

The trade volume of China's cross-border e-commerce totaled 1.22 trillion yuan (about 170.95 billion U.S. dollars) in the first half of 2024, up 10.5 percent year on year, customs data showed on July 30th.

Development was boosted by supportive policies, including the establishment of pilot zones for cross-border e-commerce development and facilitation of customs clearance, Lyu Daliang, spokesperson with the General Administration of Customs told a press conference.

Looking ahead, Lyu said the country would further streamline customs clearance procedures and improve services to support the development of cross-border e-commerce.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's e-commerce sector reports robust growth

China's e-commerce sector saw robust growth in the first half of 2024, fueling momentum for consumption recovery in the world's second-largest economy.

Online retail sales during this period surged 9.8 percent year on year to 7.1 trillion yuan (about 996 billion U.S. dollars), of which the retail sales of goods

reached 5.96 trillion yuan, marking an increase of 8.8 percent, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) on July 19th.

The MOC said that digital products, services consumption, and trade-in programs were the three new drivers for consumption growth during the period. In terms of digital products, AI learning machines and smart wearable devices grew 136.6 percent and 31.5 percent, respectively, the data showed. For services consumption, surveyed online travel and catering services grew 59.9 percent and 21.7 percent, respectively.

E-commerce platforms in China coordinated to offer trade-in services for more than 400,000 products and recycling services covering over 300 categories of goods. The trade-in services saw sales of refrigerators, washing machines, mobile phones and TVs increase by 82.1 percent, 70.4 percent, 63.9 percent and 54.3 percent, respectively, on major online shopping platforms.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's e-commerce market still has 'ample room' for growth despite slowdown in retail sales

China's e-commerce market has the potential to further expand in the next few years amid improved penetration by internet platform operators into key sectors, despite a slowdown in retail sales.

That upbeat forecast reflects the better-than-expected financial results of Chinese Big Tech companies in the March quarter, despite increased market competition, weak consumer confidence and trade uncertainties brought by geopolitical tensions.

China's e-commerce sector achieved a 12 per cent overall growth in the first three months of the year, according to data from JPMorgan.

Cross-border e-commerce could provide a "big structural growth opportunity" for China's e-commerce platform operators over the next three to five years.

(Source: China Daily)

Education, e-commerce part of China's services game plan to spur domestic consumption

China is looking to services such as eldercare and childcare as well as education – an industry targeted by government curbs in recent years – to boost domestic

consumption. The industries were part of 20 general directives issued by the State Council, China's Cabinet, on its website on Aug 3 to guide ministries and local authorities on high-quality development of service consumption.

The government also urged local governments to promote catering, housekeeping, entertainment, tourism, sports, residential, and green and health services. New forms of digital consumption should be cultivated and expanded, including unmanned retail stores, self-collection lockers, e-sports, social commerce and livestreaming e-commerce.

(Source: CNA)

China's trade with emerging markets continue to grow

Emerging markets have become a new space for China to expand foreign trade growth, with import and export continuing to improve in the first seven months of this year, according to the data released by the General Administration of Customs (GAC) on Wednesday.

In Jiangsu, doing business overseas through independent platforms is becoming a new choice for many e-commerce companies. Relying on the differentiated product advantages and scaled cost advantages of Chinese medical equipment, coupled with the flexible, convenient and mobile trading processes of e-commerce platforms, the platform's cumulative transaction volume exceeded 100 million yuan (about 13.9 million U.S. dollars) last year. From January to July this year, export increased by 25 percent year on year, of which export to the 'Belt and Road' markets accounted for more than 70 percent.

China has long been committed to deepening economic and trade cooperation with Africa, and its industrial ties with Africa have become increasingly close. In the first seven months of this year, China's trade in intermediate goods with Africa increased by 6.4 percent, accounting for 68 percent of the total value of China-Africa import and export, helping Africa's industrialization and economic diversification process. The 2024 China-Africa Cooperation Forum Summit will be held in Beijing, and the economic and trade cooperation between the two sides is expected to be further deepened.

(Source: Bastille Post Global)

China's e-commerce: deepening international cooperation

As e-commerce drives consumption recovery domestically, the sector's international cooperation has also expanded further. In the first half of this year, China signed e-commerce cooperation memorandums with Serbia, Bahrain and Tajikistan, bringing the total number of Silk Road e-commerce partner countries to 33, according to the MOC.

China's financial hub Shanghai has achieved a series of outcomes in institutional opening-up regarding the interoperability of cross-border e-invoicing and electronic bills of lading, the MOC said.

The city was given the green light in October last year by the State Council to set up the pilot zone for Silk Road e-commerce cooperation, an initiative aimed at exploring institutional innovation, further opening up the e-commerce sector, and improving digital economic cooperation, especially among Belt and Road Initiative participating countries.

According to the MOC, the pilot zone in Shanghai has also established a raft of public service platforms for training, think tanks and country pavilions.

(Source: Xinhua)

China's e-commerce industry: triple market size of AI-generated content in 2024

China is leading the world in the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI), according to a survey released by US AI and analytics software company SAS and Coleman Parkes Research.

The survey found upticks in generative AI use across the world, with the largest increases in China. To be specific, the adoption rate of generative AI in China was higher than in 16 other countries and regions, surpassing the US where only 65 percent of respondents reported using generative AI.

The market size of AI-generated content in China's e-commerce industry is projected to triple in 2024, reaching 1.2 billion yuan (\$171.4 million). This significant increase demonstrates the growing importance and effectiveness of generative AI tools in enhancing brand sales and driving traffic for e-commerce brands, Wu Bin, CEO of infimind, a Beijing-based AI technology solutions provider in the fashion and e-commerce industry said.

(Source: Global Times)

Alibaba to deploy AI-powered sourcing engine to boost online trade for global merchants

The international arm of Alibaba Group Holding is ramping up the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) by deploying an application that will help merchants on its international wholesale platforms and various third-party marketplaces buy and sell goods online.

Alibaba's International Digital Commerce Group (AIDC) will make an "AI-powered conversational sourcing engine" available to merchants from September to simplify global business-to-business e-commerce, the group said in a statement.

The AI-driven sourcing tool will be accessible through a dedicated mobile app and Alibaba.com's official website, according to the company. A sourcing professional can simply communicate via voice input with the tool, which would help streamline how a buyer is matched with suitable products and suppliers under the platform.

(Source: South China Morning Post)

China-Pak e-commerce platform join hands to make industrial upgrading

Recently, Beijing-based high-quality industrial Internet enterprises IBI and the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunications of Pakistan officially established strategic cooperation relations. Beijing Toodudu E-commerce Co., Ltd., a core subsidiary of IBI, signed a strategic cooperation agreement with Pakistani company Michael & Parker.

According to mutual agreement, IBI will partner with local core enterprises to support its businesses in Pakistan by giving full play to its mature resources in digital economy and robust digital technology advantages, and work together with the Pakistani government to advance cooperation in cross-border integrated service platform, supply chain collaboration platform, cross-border barter platform, cloud factory program, enterprise promotion and talent exchange, thus promoting the global presence of more enterprises based in both China and Pakistan.

(Source: China Economic Net)

3. RECOMMENDED EXHIBITIONS

the ASEAN Plus Three (10+3) Industrial Chain and Supply Chain Partnering Conference

Date: July-September, 2024

Online: apt.fastexpo.cn

Offline: Nanning, Guangxi (2024.9.25)

Host: the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), the People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

Overview:

With the theme “Linking 10+3, Chaining the Future”, the Conference will be held through both online and offline meetings.

CCPIT “Fastexpo” Digital Exhibition Platform - CISCE (China International Supply Chain Expo) supply and purchase matchmaking system (hereinafter referred to as the Fastexpo, website: apt.fastexpo.cn) serves as the online platform for this Conference. It will provide enterprises with free services for publishing supply and demand information, project matchmaking, and brokering. Featured by its efficient, fast, and smart matching services, it will promote regional industrial and supply chain cooperation and enhance the deliverables of the Conference.

Supply and Demand Matching Services:

1.Promoting and Marketing: Promote trade and investment demands of enterprises within the 10+3 region online for resource sharing and smart connectivity.

2.Smart Matching: Based on the big data algorithms of the Fastexpo, matching partners will be recommended to both supply and demand sides periodically. Registered enterprises can view or receive matching results via email.

3.Online Themed Matchmaking Meetings: The first themed matchmaking meeting for the green agriculture industry was successfully held on July 25. The second matchmaking meeting will take place on September 5, with details to be announced on the Fastexpo's official website. Please stay tuned.

Contact: Tina, Email: b2b@fastexpo.cn, whatsapp: +86-18201675564

4. BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OFFER | Mechanical Equipment and Components

There are some Chinese companies seeking to export mechanical equipment and components, with specific products including: Packaging material equipment, sewage treatment equipment, automation equipment design, laser cutting machines, grinding machines, instruments, mixers, gear shafts, forgings, etc.

BUSINESS OFFER | Auto Parts

There are some Chinese companies seeking to export automotive parts and components, with specific products including: filters, connectors, PDUs, automotive chips, brake disks, etc.

BUSINESS OFFER | New Chemical Materials

There are some Chinese companies seeking to export chemical materials, with specific products including: Expansion agents, foaming agents, aerogel insulation materials, spray coatings, raw materials for polyurethane soft foam, activated carbon, Honeycomb zeolite molecular sieve, Precious metal catalyst, etc.

BUSINESS OFFER | Green Agriculture

There are some Chinese companies seeking to export chemical materials, with specific products including: Cereals, Tea, Honey, Beverages, Seasonings, Seeds, etc.

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.

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