

### [International Trade And U.S. Manufacturing Get Prime Time Exposure In Second And Third Presidential Debates](#)

In contrast to their first debate encounter, President Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney engaged on international trade issues extensively during the second and third presidential debates, which were held on October 12 and October 22, 2012, respectively. How to spark a rebirth of American manufacturing was also among the issues debated by the candidates. [More »](#)

### [Special Feature: Book Review - \*Producing Prosperity: Why America Needs a Manufacturing Renaissance\*](#)

Harvard Business School Professors Gary Pisano and Willy Shih make a strong case for focusing our country's economic and policy efforts on reviving the manufacturing sector in their new book *Producing Prosperity: Why America Needs a Manufacturing Renaissance*. While the idea that manufacturing matters in the U.S. is one that many have come to agree on, Pisano and Shih lay out a concise and effective argument for why it matters and what should be done to turn around its decline. Their goal with this book is to educate government policymakers and corporate leaders on these key points and to make the argument that past decisions related to this sector have been short-sighted and ill-informed. [More »](#)

### [President Obama Orders Chinese-Owned Corporation To Divest From Wind Farm In Oregon](#)

On September 28, 2012, President Obama blocked Ralls Corporation from acquiring ownership of four wind farm companies in Oregon near a U.S. naval weapons systems training facility due to national security concerns. Ralls is a Delaware corporation, but it is owned by Chinese nationals. Ralls also is affiliated with a Chinese manufacturer of wind turbines, Sany Group Co. Ralls, which had already completed the acquisition, has 90 days under the terms of the presidential order to completely divest from the wind farm project. [More »](#)

### [China Adopts New Measures to Promote Technological Renovation](#)

#### In This Issue

[International Trade And U.S. Manufacturing Get Prime Time Exposure In Second And Third Presidential Debates](#)

[Special Feature: Book Review - \*Producing Prosperity: Why America Needs a Manufacturing Renaissance\*](#)

[President Obama Orders Chinese-Owned Corporation To Divest From Wind Farm In Oregon](#)

[China Adopts New Measures to Promote Technological Renovation](#)

#### News Of Note

- [Debate On Presidential Campaign Manufacturing Policies](#)
- [U.S. Signs Framework Agreement With Gulf Cooperation Council](#)
- [European Union And Canada Negotiate Comprehensive Trade Deal](#)
- [Preliminary AD/CVD Duties On Stainless Steel Sinks From China](#)
- [U.S. AD/CVD Case On Solar Products Goes To Final](#)
- [ISM Reports Manufacturing Still Flat](#)

Thirty years after it issued the last directive on enterprise technological renovation in 1982, the State Council of China published *Guidelines of the State Council on Promoting Enterprise Technological Renovation* (Guo Fa (2012) No. 44) (“*Guidelines*”) in September 2012. The *Guidelines* further the Chinese government’s efforts in urging enterprises to undertake technological improvement projects and thus promoting the industry sector to transform its growth pattern, the goal set forth in the *Industrial Transformation and Upgrade Plan (2011-2015)* in particular (see the [March 2012 issue of the Trade & Manufacturing Alert](#)) and the National Economic Social Development 12th Five-Year Plan in general (see the [April 2011 issue of the Trade & Manufacturing Alert](#)).

[More »](#)

Global Competitiveness Of The Domestic Olive Oil Industry Investigated
• U.S. Defeats China In WTO Appeal Of Electrical Steel Case
Contacts

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## News Of Note

- **Debate on Presidential Campaign Manufacturing Policies** – The Conference on the Renaissance of American Manufacturing and The Aspen Institute Program on Manufacturing and Society in the 21st Century held a debate on "What Policy Initiatives Are Needed to Help U.S. Manufacturing? What the Candidates are Saying," on October 19th at the Aspen Institute in Washington, DC. [More »](#)
- **U.S. Signs Framework Agreement With Gulf Cooperation Council** – The United States and the Gulf Cooperation Council (“GCC”) signed a Framework Agreement for Trade, Economic, Investment and Technical Cooperation (“Agreement”) on September 25, 2012. The GCC is composed of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. According to United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk, the Agreement is designed to forge closer economic ties, create jobs, and increase U.S. exports. [More »](#)
- **European Union And Canada Negotiate Comprehensive Trade Deal** – Canadian Trade Minister Ed Fast stated last month that a comprehensive trade deal with the European Union could be completed by the end of 2012. The negotiations began in 2009, and the parties completed nine negotiating rounds between 2009 and 2011. [More »](#)
- **Preliminary AD/CVD Duties On Stainless Steel Sinks From China** – Elkay Manufacturing Company achieved an affirmative preliminary determination that Chinese producers/exporters sold drawn stainless steel sinks in the U.S. at antidumping duty (“AD”) margins of 54.25 percent to 76.53 percent in September 2012. As a result, the Commerce instructed U.S. Customs and Border Protection to collect cash deposits on entries of drawn stainless steel sinks from China. [More »](#)
- **U.S. AD/CVD Case On Solar Products Goes To Final** – Commerce published its final AD/CVD rates in the investigations of crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells and modules from China on October 17, 2012. The two major producers/exporters were Trina Solar Energy, which received an AD margin of 18.32 percent and a CVD rate of 15.97 percent, and the Wuxi Suntech Power companies, which received an AD margin of 31.73 percent and a CVD rate of 14.78 percent. [More »](#)
- **ISM Reports Manufacturing Still Flat** – The U.S. manufacturing sector still struggles, but there are hopeful signs. The Institute for Supply Management’s (“ISM”) [September 2012 report](#) on economic activity shows sector growth for the first time in three months, albeit at a tepid 51.5 points. Values above 50 indicate expansion. [More »](#)
- **Global Competitiveness Of The Domestic Olive Oil Industry Investigated** – The ITC has, at the request of the House Ways and Means Committee, instituted a “Section 332” investigation regarding the conditions of competition in the olive oil industry between U.S. producers and foreign exporters. Section 332 investigations are general fact-finding investigations that can cover a wide range of trade-related topics. [More »](#)
- **U.S. Defeats China In WTO Appeal Of Electrical Steel Case** – The WTO’s Appellate Body sided

with the U.S. over China and upheld an earlier panel ruling against China's AD and CVD duties on imports of grain oriented flat-rolled electrical steel ("GOES") from two U.S. producers -- AK Steel Corporation and ATI Allegheny Ludlum Corporation. [More »](#)

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## Contacts

Gilbert B. Kaplan  
gkaplan@kslaw.com  
+1 202 661 7981

Jeffrey M. Telep  
jtelep@kslaw.com  
+1 202 626 2390

Taryn Koball Williams  
taryn\_williams@kslaw.com  
+1 202 661 7895

P. Lee Smith  
lsmith@kslaw.com  
+1 202 626 2940

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