

## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

#### Trade Community Welcomes Peterson's Actions Against Byrd Amendment

(Toronto, April 1, 2005) I.E.Canada, Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters today welcomed the Government of Canada's announced retaliatory measures against the United States for its failure to repeal the Byrd amendment.

"While we would have preferred that no trade action was necessary, the international community, including Canada, is obliged to send a clear message to the United States that unfair and illegal trade practices cannot be tolerated," said Mary Anderson, president of I.E.Canada.

Anderson added that the measures taken by Trade Minister Jim Peterson would not unduly harm the importing and exporting community in Canada.

In its consultations with the federal government, I.E.Canada made it clear that any actions taken against the United States must not harm the trade community directly or cost jobs in Canada.

"We are pleased that Minister Peterson listened to the importing and exporting community, and ensured that the measures he took yesterday will have few negative consequences for our members," said Anderson.

I.E.Canada, representing Canada's small- and medium-sized importers and exporters, emphasized the federal government must continue to proceed cautiously when undertaking retaliatory measures against the United States, with a view to minimizing any impact on Canadian manufacturing.

"Canada's trade relationship with the United States is essential to the strength of our economy and our standard of living," said Anderson. "While Canada takes measures designed to encourage our biggest trade partner to abide by international law, we must also ensure that we do it in a way that doesn't do more harm than good," she added.

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