# **USA/China Trade Agreement Webinar**

#### Business Impact of IP Provisions: What's In, What's Not, & What Else to Know

Mark A. Cohen, Berkeley Center for Law & Technology Thomas L. Jarvis, Winston Chair International IP Litigation Randal R. Rader, former Chief Judge Federal Circuit

BERKELEY CENTER FOR LAW & TECHNOLOGY

🐨 The Rader Group

January 23, 2020



#### **USA / China Trade Backgrounder:**





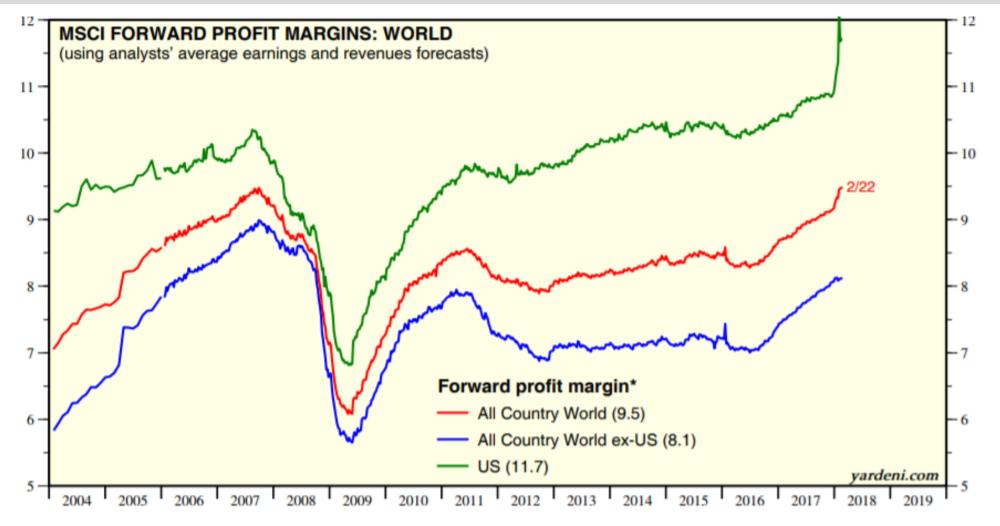
#### Importance of National Markets: Household Consumption

Country	1970 (\$ millions)	2015 (\$ millions)	Percentage (2015)
United States	647,688	12,283,683	29%
China	49,021	4,251,426	10%
Japan	101,649	2,479,111	6%
United Kingdom	85,260	1,857,670	4%
Germany	120,210	1,814,321	4%
France	81,294	1,332,527	3%
India	51,299	1,246,729	3%
Brazil ~		1,124,727	3%
Canada	48,813	891,199	2%
Mexico	25,561	791,942	2%
Australia	22,126	762,109	2%
Russia ~		719,339	2%
Spain	26,141	690,083	2%
South Korea	6,628	681,789	2%
All Other Countries		11,681,276	27%
World Tot		42,607,931	

© 2020 Winston & Strawn LLP



#### **Profit Margins Around the World**

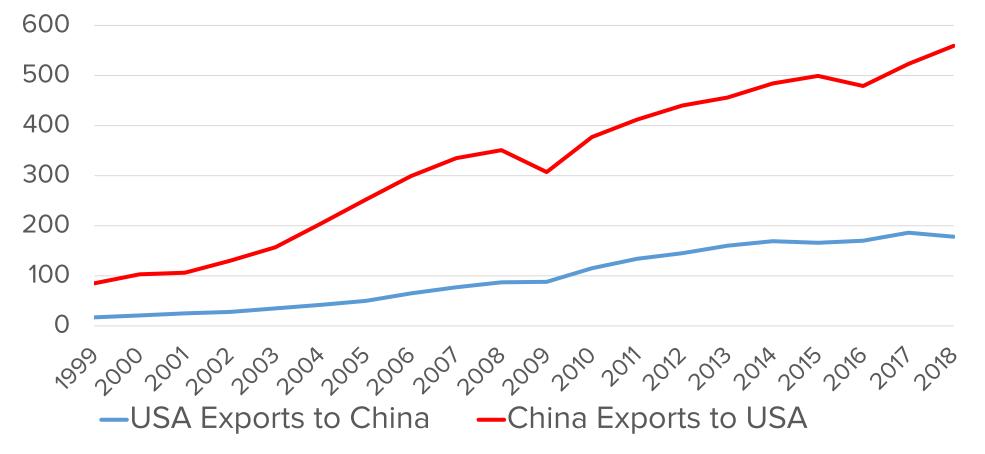


\* Time-weighted average of the consensus estimates for current and next year. Monthly through December 2005, weekly thereafter. Source: Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.



#### **USA / China Trade Imbalance**

Exports in Goods & Services (Billions of \$ USD)

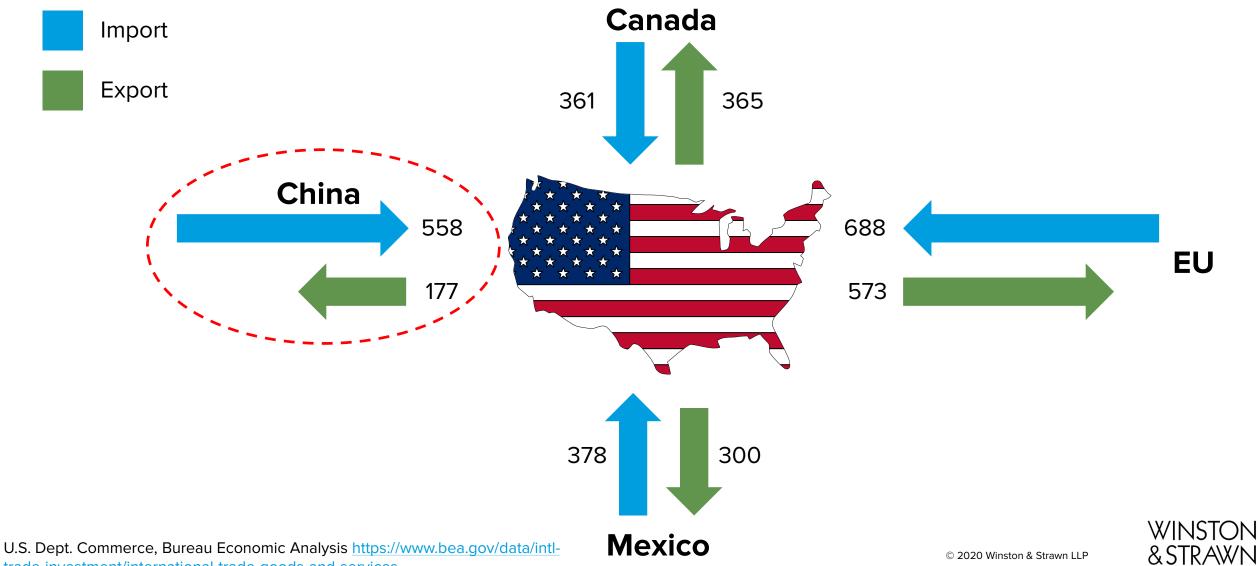


U.S. Dept. Commerce, Bureau Economic Analysis <u>https://www.bea.gov/data/intl-trade-investment/international-trade-goods-and-services</u>



#### **Global Market Imbalances**

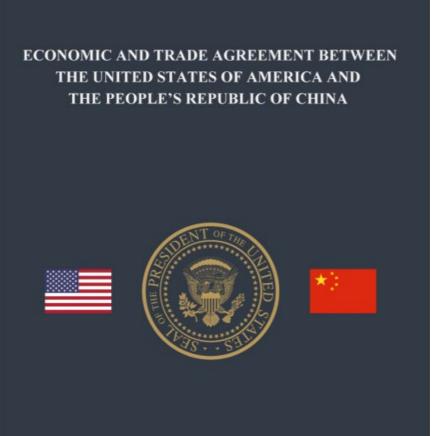
#### Billions of \$ USD (2018)



LLP

trade-investment/international-trade-goods-and-services

#### **The Agreement**



PHASE ONE

#### Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/files/agreem ents/phase%20one%20agreement/Economic And Trade Agreement Between\_The Unit ed States And China Text.pdf



#### **Phase One Provisions**

- Chapter 1: Intellectual Property
  - Trade Secrets
  - Patents
  - Pharmaceutical-Related IP
  - Geographical Designations of Origin & Trademarks
  - Piracy and Counterfeit Goods
- Chapter 2: Technology Transfer

- Chapter 3: Food & Ag Products
- Chapter 4: Financial Services
- Chapter 5: Macroeconomic
  Policies & Exchange Rates
- Chapter 6: Expanding Trade
- Chapter 7: Dispute Resolution



#### Overview

- 1. Signed January 15, 2020; various effective dates
- 2. Primary provisions
  - A. Chinese reforms related to intellectual property, technology transfer, agriculture, financial services, and currency & foreign exchange
  - B. Chinese commitment to increased purchases of U.S. goods and services
  - C. USA agreement to significantly modify its Section 301 tariff actions
  - D. Dispute resolution system
- 3. Congressional ratification not required b/c Section 301 agreement



#### Trade Secrets—China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Expand scope of civil liability from those directly involved in using trade secrets to also encompass those misappropriate or cyberhack.
- 2. Cover electronic intrusions, breach & inducement to breach NDAs.
- 3. When trade secret owners establish prima facie misappropriation, shift burden of producing evidence and proof to defendants in civil cases.
- 4. Prohibiting Chinese government personnel and third party experts from disclosing trade secrets or confidential business information by—
  A. Limiting requests for information to that necessary for regulatory objectives
  - B. Limit access to personnel necessary for regulatory objectives
  - C. Limit access to third party experts who do not have conflicts of interest
  - D. Criminal, civil, and admin penalties for disclosure of confidential information



#### **Trade Secret Issues**

- 1. Evolution of Chinese trade secrecy problems & law
- 2. China's Anti-Unfair Competition Law ("AUCL") (April 23, 2019)
- 3. Preliminary Injunctions vs Action Preservations
- 4. Shifting burden of proof
- 5. Statutory damage caps increases from to about \$744,000 USD
- 6. Exemplary damages for willful misappropriation 5x actuals
- 7. Cross border issues, e.g. ITC section 337
- 8. Interplay of criminal, civil, and administrative actions
- 9. Trade secrets vs confidential business information.



# Pharmaceutical IP— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Establish mechanism for expedited remedies before marketing of an allegedly infringing pharmaceutical.
- 2. Provide patent term extensions to compensate for patent office and marketing approval delays.
- 3. Permit use of supplemental data to establish patentability for pharmaceutical patent applications.



#### **Pharmaceutical IP Issues**

- No "orange book" of approved drugs w/ therapeutic equivalence evaluations.
- 2. Pharma patent linkage to regulatory approvals.
- 3. Biologics covered.
- 4. No artificial infringement arising from filing for regulatory approvals, thus linkage weakened.
- 5. No regulatory data protections.
- 6. Patent term extensions.



#### **General Patent Issues**

- 1. Patent provisions limited to pharmaceutical products & practices.
- 2. No standards-essential patent prosecution or litigation provisions.
- 3. No low-quality patent provisions.
- 4. No non-practicing entity (NPE/patent trolls) provisions for litigation.
- 5. No limitations on industrial policy and patent grants.
- 6. No additional design patent protection.

# Trademarks— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Protect U.S. brand names
- 2. Stop "overprotecting" geographical designations that shut out U.S. agricultural and food products
- 3. Invalidate or refuse bad faith trademark applications
- 4. Consider common usage in dictionaries, the press, and trade when determining geographic designations of origin
- 5. Not recognize geographic designations of origin for products comprised of generic components



#### **Trademark Issues**

- 1. Brand names = "famous marks"?
- 2. No Chinese common law trademark rights.
- 3. Trademark squatting / warehousing.
- 4. Overlapping administrative, civil, and criminal actions = inaction.
- 5. Abusive registrations.

# Pirated & Counterfeit Goods— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Actions against online infringements, including takedowns and ensuring validity of notices & counter notices
- 2. Actions against e-commerce platforms that tolerate infringement
- 3. Increase actions to stop counterfeits with health/safety risks
- 4. Forfeiture and destruction of pirated/counterfeit goods and mfg equip
- 5. Increase actions against pirated/counter goods in physical markets
- 6. Third party audits to ensure government agencies and SOE only use licensed software



#### **Pirated & Counterfeit Goods Issues**

- 1. E-Commerce challenges
  - A. Automated systems
  - B. Third party offers for sale & fulfillment difficult to police
  - C. Amazon vs Alibaba instances of counterfeits & policing efforts
- 2. E-Commerce platforms addressed, but not e-tailers.
- 3. Refines liability for erroneous but good faith takedown notices.
- 4. Revocation operating licenses for repeated pirated/counterfeit goods.
- 5. Actions against counterfeits w/ health or safety risks.
- 6. Blocking cross-border distribution of counterfeits.



# IP Remedies— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Provide deterrent-level civil and criminal penalties
- 2. Transfer cases from administrative to criminal authorities
- 3. Expedited enforcement of judgements
- 4. Provide presumptions of copyright ownership
- 5. Streamline requirements for foreign litigants to authenticate evidence
- 6. Provide for witness testimony and cross-examination in civil actions



#### **Remedies Issues**

- 1. Some provisions already adopted.
- 2. Remedies to "deter" future IP theft.
  - A. Civil remedies to deter specific defendant
  - B. Criminal remedies for society-wide deterrence
- 3. Complex interplay of admin vs judicial remedies.
- 4. Uncertain standards for prosecutorial discretion.
  - A. Low rates of referral to prosecutors
  - B. No requirement for prosecutors to accept cases
  - C. No solution for prosecutor inaction
  - D. No provision for additional prosecution resources.



#### Implementation of IP Provisions

- 1. Method of implementation determined by each party.
- 2. By about March 16, 2020, China will issue Action Plan to implement its obligations with effective dates for each measure.
- 3. USA affirms that its existing measure are consistent with the obligations imposed on China.



### Chapter 2: Technology Transfers— China Is Required to . . .

- Prohibition against requiring or pressuring foreign companies to transfer their technology as a condition for market access, administrative approvals, or receipt of other advantages.
- 2. Any transfer or licensing of technology is based on market terms that are voluntary and mutually agreed upon.
- Prohibit state-directed outbound investment aimed at acquiring foreign technology in sectors and industries targeted by industrial policies
- 4. Due process, transparent, and non-discriminatory enforcement in administrative proceedings



#### **Technology Transfer Issues**

- 1. Unclear why tech transfer was not included in IP chapter.
- 2. Accelerates elimination of forced tech transfer provisions already underway.
- 3. Resumption of Scientific and Technical Cooperation agreements.
- 4. China 3-5-2 directive for government offices to remove foreign software.
- 5. No provisions re Huawei issues.



#### What's Not in the Agreement

- 1. Reconciling tariff rates
  - A. Chinese tariffs on USA goods average more than 12%
  - B. USA tariffs on Chinese goods average less than 3%
  - C. Obstacle: Chinese consumers prefer Western goods
- 2. Subsidies of Chinese State Owned Enterprises (SOEs)
  - A. Targeting specific global industrial sectors
  - B. Made-In-China 2025: \$350 Billion in subsidies to 10 industries, including robotics, semiconductors, electric vehicles, smart electrical grid, etc.)
  - C. WTO slow to resolve (Boeing/Airbus began 2004, decision 2011, compliance 2019).



#### What's Not in the Agreement

- 3. National Security Policy Arising from Trade
  - A. Maintaining industries that are critical to economic security (steel, aluminum)
  - B. Identifying technologies/industries critical to military security
    - i. 5G Wireless Telecommunications
    - ii. Artificial Intelligence
    - iii. Block Chain
    - iv. Autonomous Weapons



#### What Else?

- 1. What is not covered by the Agreement?
- 2. Expanded work for IP counsel, agencies, and courts
- 3. What comes next, if anything?
  - A. Regulatory Data Protection (RDP)?
  - B. Artificial infringement?
- 4. Civil code, patent law, copyright law, criminal code, antimonopoly law modifications?



# **Other Provisions**



© 2020 Winston & Strawn LLP

#### Chapter 3: Trade in Food & Agricultural Products— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Purchase of \$40+ billion/year of U.S. food products next 2 years
- 2. Establish transparent, science- and risk-based biotechnology approvals
- 3. Average 24 month review process for feed products
- 4. Expand scope of beef, pork, poultry products that may be imported
- 5. Recognize USDA oversight of meat processing, eliminating unique Chinese registration requirements
- 6. Eliminate certain restrictions against dairy, infant formula, rice, seafood, fruits, vegetables imported from USA



# Chapter 4: Financial Services— China Is Required to . . .

- Eliminate caps on foreign ownership of securities, insurance, asset management, and futures businesses—100% USA ownership permitted.
- 2. Remove discriminatory regulatory requirements.
- 3. Permit USA credit and debt card companies to operate.
- 4. Permit USA bond rating services to operate & rate Chinese bonds.

#### Chapter 5: Macroeconomic Policy & Exchange Rates—China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Refrain from competitive devaluations & targeting of exchange rates
- 2. Increase transparency
- 3. Provide mechanisms for accountability & enforcement



### Chapter 6: Expanding Trade— China Is Required to . . .

- 1. Increase by \$200 billion its 2017 imports in four categories of goods
  - A. USA manufactured goods (\$120 billion in 2020, \$132 billion in 2021)
  - B. USA agricultural products (\$80 billion over 2020-2021)
  - C. USA energy products (\$30 billion in 2020, \$46 billion 2021)
  - D. USA services (financial, cloud, travel) (\$100 billion in 2020, \$112 billion 2021)



#### **Chapter 7: Dispute Resolution**

- 1. Bilateral Evaluation & Dispute Resolution Arrangement
- 2. Trade Framework Group USTR & Vice Premier of China to implement
- 3. Bilateral Evaluation & Dispute Resolution Offices
  - A. Assess specific implementation issues
  - B. Receive complaints
  - C. Consultation to attempt resolution
- 4. Obligations to provide requested information
- 5. Appeals of issues prior and new obligations by USTR & VP China for good faith counter measures
- 6. Reaffirm WTO rights & obligations

#### **USA Concessions**



© 2020 Winston & Strawn LLP

# Reductions in Section 301 Tariffs And Equivalent Legal Protections

- 1. Reduce 301 tariffs from 15% to 7.5% on \$112 Billion of Chinese goods
- 2. Cancel 301 tariffs set for Dec. 15, 2019 on \$160 Billion of Chinese goods
- 3. For virtually all Chinese obligations, there are representations that "The United States affirms that existing U.S. measure afford treatment equivalent to that provide in this Article" or similar statements.
  - A. Exception for combating counterfeit and pirated products— USA is studying measures.
  - B. Exception for criminal IP actions—USA will cooperate with China.



#### **Questions/Answers**



Mark A. Cohen Berkeley Law School Email: <u>mark.cohen@berkeley.edu</u> **Thomas L. Jarvis** Winston & Strawn LLP Email: <u>tjarvis@winston.com</u> Judge Randall R. Rader The Rader Group PLLC Email: randall.rader@theradergroupplic .com

