In the News: EU Tariffs, Vietnam, Huawei, Footwear, FCPA Leniency

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Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg Trade Report

Trump weighs new trade investigation to justify tariffs on EU

“An investigation under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 would be potentially more sweeping and would subject numerous European industries, subsidies and other programmes to scrutiny. The move would also effectively terminate the national security investigation.”

[Politico]

Vietnam takes “drastic steps” on fraudulent exports to U.S.

“Customs officials are focusing on ‘highly suspicious’ sectors -- such as electronic components and wooden furniture -- that have seen annual exports surge by more than 15%, said Mai Xuan Thanh, deputy director general of the customs department. Hundreds of domestic and foreign companies are under ‘special scrutiny for suspect exports,’ he said.”

[Bloomberg]

U.S. weighs new regulations to further restrict Huawei suppliers

“[U]nder current regulations, key foreign supply chains remain beyond the reach of U.S. authorities, prompting inter-agency discussions within the administration of President Donald Trump about possible changes to two key rules that could expand U.S. authority to block more foreign shipments to the company, giving more teeth to Huawei's blacklisting, according to two people familiar with the matter.”

[Reuters]

AAFA echoes industry sentiment on proposed footwear duty

“At Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, a New York law firm, attorney-member William Maloney has been classifying footwear for 40 years. He feels the move by CBP is simply based on a plan to generate additional revenue on imports of footwear that falls under the athletic category.”

[California Apparel News]

Foreign bribery leniency program gets minor adjustment

“In one change, the Justice Department added language to make it clear that a company that discloses possible infractions soon after learning about them wouldn’t be expected to have a full grasp of the situation. … Another
change related to the information prosecutors expect companies to share to get credit for cooperation."

[Wall Street Journal]