

>> Announcer: Ladies and gentlemen, please turn your attention to the screens for an address from acting president and chairman Ambassador Jeffrey Gerrish.

>> Hello everyone, I'm Ambassador Jeff Gerrish and welcome to EXIM's annual conference. I'm sorry that I can't be there with all of you, as you may know I am dual-hatting and my work as the Deputy U.S. Trade Representative has taken me to Beijing this week for our ongoing negotiations with China. Ambassador Lighthizer is also here, he asked me to convey that he would have been at the conference as well if it were not for this trip to China. The ambassador also wanted me to make clear that the entire Trump administration, including, and most importantly, the president himself, supports a fully functioning export import bank. I am sure the conference will be a great success. We've got a fantastic program planned and I want to personally thank our speakers for participating, including my colleagues in the administration Larry Kudlow and Peter Navarro and all the members of Congress who have graciously agreed to join us. And thanks to all of you for continuing to support EXIM. You are in good hands with my friend Jeff Goettman, enjoy the program.