

NEWS RELEASE

April 19, 2021

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Chris Enyart

AAEI

cenyart@aaei.org

(202) 857-8009 x1104

AAEI Announces New Leader, New Direction as It Turns 100

International Trade Association Chooses Trade, Government Relations Pro as New President and CEO

Washington, DC, April 19, 2021 - The American Association of Exporters and Importers ([AAEI](#)) announced today that its new President and CEO will be Eugene C. Laney, Jr. starting next week.

Mr. Laney has more than 25 years of experience in public and governmental affairs, most recently serving as Head of International Government Affairs for DHL Express. In AAEI's announcement, AAEI Chair Susie Hoeger says, "In choosing Eugene as AAEI's next President and CEO, [AAEI] selected a leader with the best array of knowledge, experience, and skills from a competitive pool of applicants. Eugene demonstrated his expertise in and understanding of international trade in the 21st Century from the dual perspectives of the business community and government relations."

AAEI is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, a remarkable achievement for a trade association based in Washington, DC. The celebration comes at a time of historic expectations and challenges for U.S. importers and exporters. "We are at a point in time where we can reimagine global trade for the next century with a future forward approach," says Mr. Laney. "It's a thrilling time for global trade and I want to give the association firm footing as we march into AAEI's next 100 years."

Mr. Laney's plans for AAEI are rooted in part to his experience with the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), where he worked on transportation, homeland security and economic issues with Fortune 500 travel departments and airlines, hotels, and travel agencies, including following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. But he says his first task is to hear the concerns of global trade professionals.

"I want to hear about our members' current challenges during our upcoming [virtual annual conference](#) June 29 – July 1 and how AAEI can help meet their goals.

Mr. Laney begins his tenure with AAEI on Monday, April 26, 2021. He replaces Marianne Rowden as President and CEO, who served AAEI for 16 years.

About AAEI

AAEI is the premier trade organization representing those immediately engaged in and directly impacted by developments pertaining to international trade. We are recognized as technical experts regarding the day-to-day facilitation of trade.