

## Russian Trade Representative Meets with CalChamber

Current trade relations between California and Russia were the topic of discussion on September 26 when Roman Zykunov, trade representative for the Russian Federation, visited the California Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to discussing the CalChamber's ongoing support for congressional approval of permanent normal trade relations (PNTR) with Russia, Zykunov reviewed several measures recently taken by the Russian government to improve investment project conditions in the country.

Zykunov also pointed to tax incentives, the improved court system, privatization of companies with state shareholding, and reduced administrative barriers in general.

As California's 31st largest trading partner, Russia imported \$665.6 million in goods in 2011, including 23.4% in computers and electronics. Agricultural products and machinery both made up approximately 14% of the total, while transportation equipment had approximately 20.1% of the total imported.

A detailed list of the measures taken to improve investment project conditions in Russia is available at [www.calchamber.com/russia](http://www.calchamber.com/russia).

PNTR with Russia is pending before Congress and supporters hope it will be taken up after the November election. See [www.calchamber.com/PNTR](http://www.calchamber.com/PNTR) for more information.



**Roman Zykunov, trade representative for the Russian Federation, and Susanne Stirling, CalChamber vice president, international affairs.**