



Passport to Profit



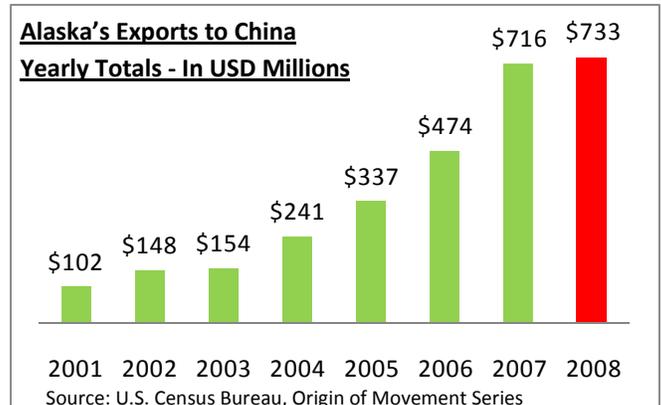
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China Calling

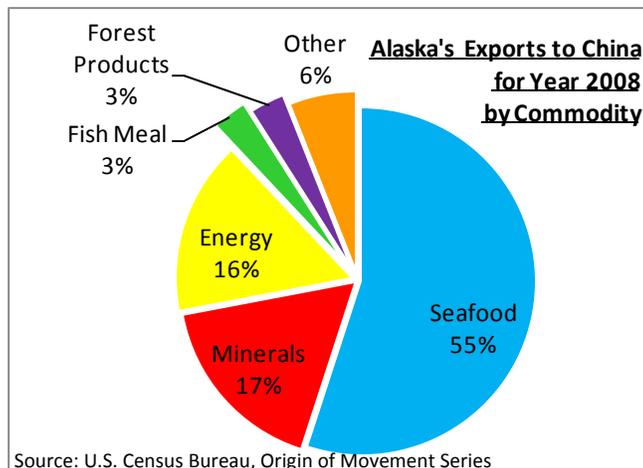
Alaska's "China Era" Continues to Reach New Highs; Trade Mission and Conference to Make Valuable Connections for Alaskans

By Greg Wolf

In 2008, exports from Alaska to China reached \$733 million, a new record high. The Middle Kingdom now ranks as the state's second largest, and fastest growing, major trading partner. In spite of the global economic downturn, prospects remain positive for Alaska's relationship with China to grow both in size and scope in the years ahead. We anticipate that Chinese companies will not only be increasingly important buyers of Alaska's natural resources, but will also become investors in major development projects.



Seafood has been, and remains, the primary export from Alaska to China. In 2008, at \$404 million, seafood accounted for 55% of the state's total export to the country. A significant quantity of the seafood sent to China is further processed and then re-exported, while another part remains in the country to be sold in stores and restaurants. At 17%, minerals are the second-largest category, amounting to \$123 million, and consisting primarily of zinc and lead ore. Energy is the third sizable export category with shipments of refined fuel products and coal totaling \$115 million. Additional export commodities are fishmeal and forest products. (See graph below).



World Trade Center Alaska (WTCAK) has made China a major focus of its efforts. Six years ago, we launched the "China Calling" program as an ongoing series of events, activities and research designed to provide Alaskans with the information, contacts, and "hands on" assistance necessary to pursue business opportunities in this exciting growth market.

In December, WTCAK will lead a trade mission to the Chinese cities of Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai. Also in December, in cooperation with the State of Alaska and the U.S. Department of Commerce, WTCAK will conduct the **5th Annual Alaska-China Business Conference in Anchorage.** In the box below, please find more information about the upcoming conference.

5th Annual Alaska-China Business Conference December 1, 2009

The Alaska-China Business Conference features presentations by Chinese and U.S. Government officials, private sector executives already doing business in China, and a number of other speakers to help attendees better understand the opportunities, challenges, and resources available to assist their exploration or trade with China. The conference is an important opportunity for attendees to gain valuable insights, ideas, and advice on doing business in China—Alaska's fastest growing export market.

