

# US-CHINA CONTAINER TRADE: Trends and Forecasts

Mario O. Moreno Economist October 17, 2012





Commodity Trends, Ports Traffic, Projections

## **CHINA – US TRADE**

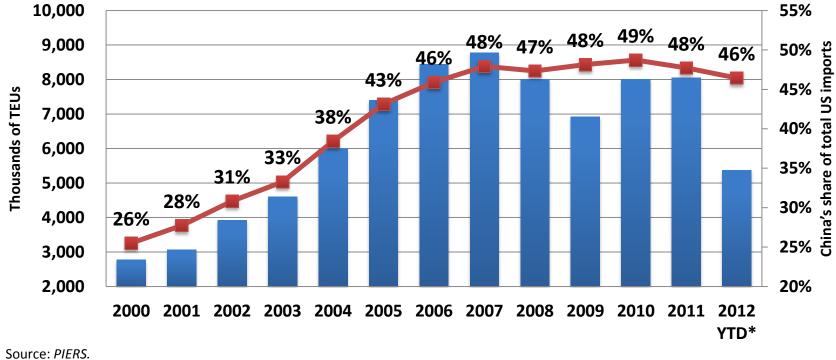


2



#### **CHINA – US CONTAINERIZED TRADE**

**TEU Volume and China's Share of Total US Imports** 



\*Year to date figures through August

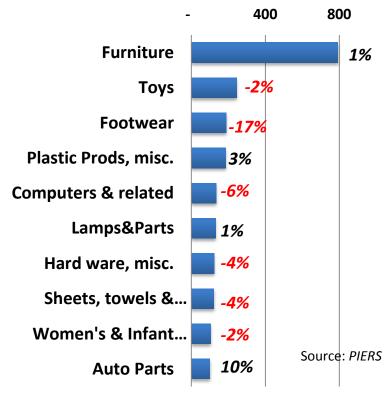


.....

## **FASTEST GROWING COMMODITIES IN 2012**

#### **Top US Imports from China**

In Thousands of TEUs



### ✓ Largest import: furniture

 Housing market in modest recovery; stubbornly slow progress in employment

THE JOURNAL

**OF COMMERCE** 

- ✓ Fastest growing commodity: Auto Parts
- ✓ Cautious US consumer
  - High saving ratio; fiscal cliff issue



## **TOP SUPPLIERS OF FURNITURE TO U.S.**



#### Vietnam and Malaysia gaining sourcing share

Top Suppliers	2012 (In TEUs)	% Change Over 2011	2012 Sourcing Share	Difference from 2011
China	610,276	0.9%	68.3%	-2.7%
Vietnam	102,035	27.0%	11.4%	2.0%
Malaysia	36,616	19.7%	4.1%	0.5%
Indonesia	26,448	16.7%	3.0%	0.3%
Taiwan	21,590	14.2%	2.4%	0.2%
Italy	13,030	20.6%	1.5%	0.2%
Poland	11,238	-5.4%	1.3%	-0.1%
Thailand	7,684	-28.6%	0.9%	-0.4%
Hong Kong	7,414	-9.5%	0.8%	-0.1%
India	6,908	28.9%	0.8%	0.1%
Total	893,639	4.8%		

Source: PIERS. Data is from January through August.



#### Vietnam and Central America gaining more sourcing share than China

Top Suppliers	2012 (In TEUs)	% Change Over 2011	2012 Sourcing Share	Difference from 2011
China	94,007	-4.6%	31.5%	1.1%
Vietnam	35,914	2.1%	12.0%	1.2%
Bangladesh	22,837	-18.9%	7.7%	-1.0%
Indonesia	22,587	-5.9%	7.6%	0.2%
Hong Kong	19,668	-15.9%	6.6%	-0.6%
Cambodia	15,446	-4.6%	5.2%	0.2%
India	10,848	-18.2%	3.6%	-0.5%
Honduras	10,458	4.4%	3.5%	0.4% 🗕
El Salvador	8,293	13.2%	2.8%	0.5% 🔶
Guatemala	7,533	-15.2%	2.5%	-0.2%
Total	298,089	-7.8%		

Source: PIERS. Data is from January through August. \*Apparel includes menswear, women's & infant wear.



#### Vietnam gaining sourcing share

Top Suppliers	2012 (In TEUs)	% Change Over 2011	2012 Sourcing Share	Difference from 2011
China	136,702	-14.7%	70.7%	-2.5%
Hong Kong	19,178	-18.3%	9.9%	-0.8%
Vietnam	18,950	12.7%	9.8%	2.1%
Indonesia	8,238	-3.1%	4.3%	0.4%
Brazil	1,585	17.3%	0.8%	0.2%
India	1,356	7.0%	0.7%	0.1%
Dominican Rep	1,024	2.4%	0.5%	0.1%
Italy	954	7.1%	0.5%	0.1%
Taiwan	936	-12.1%	0.5%	0.0%
Honduras	750	166.0%	0.4%	0.3%
Total	193,343	-11.7%		

Source: PIERS. Data is from January through August.



## **TOP SUPPLIERS OF AUTO PARTS TO U.S.**

#### Auto parts shipments from China growing, not enough to hold share

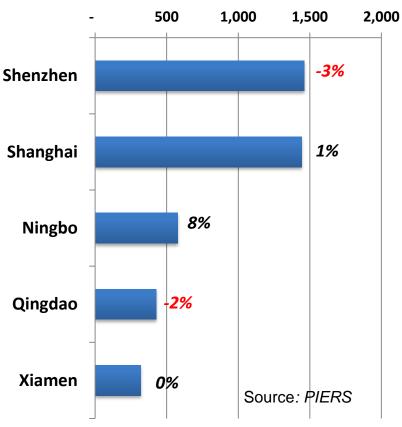
THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

		% Change Over	2012 Sourcing	Difference from
Top Suppliers	2012 (In TEUs)	2011	Share	2011
Japan	115,315	22.0%	23.9%	0.8%
China	100,540	9.8%	20.8%	-1.5%
Korea	72,803	19.4%	15.1%	0.2%
Germany	60,390	30.5%	12.5%	1.2%
Taiwan	43,418	3.9%	9.0%	-1.2%
India	9,416	18.2%	1.9%	0.0%
Brazil	8,432	0.3%	1.7%	-0.3%
Italy	7,749	48.3%	1.6%	0.3%
Netherlands	6,358	43.9%	1.3%	0.2%
Belgium	5,233	18.2%	1.1%	0.0%
Total	483,068	17.8%		

Source: *PIERS.* Data is from January through August.



## FASTEST GROWING CHINESE PORTS IN CHINA – US TRADE



#### In Thousands of TEUs

 ✓ Shenzhen → furniture; toys; lamps & parts; footwear

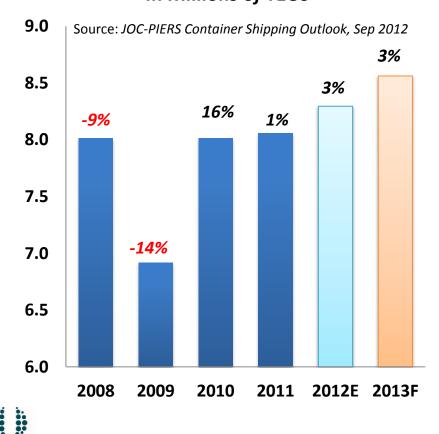
THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

 ✓ Shanghai → furniture; sheets, towels & blankets; women's & infant wear; miscellaneous hardware

## FORECAST FOR CHINA – US CONTAINERIZED TRADE



#### China – US Trade: Forecast In Millions of TEUs



Global Trade

- ✓ U.S. income growth projected to weaken further
- Modest recovery for housing market, major driver of furniture
- ✓ Long-term appreciation of Yuan interrupted
- ✓ Trade disputes



Fast growing commodities, Ports traffic, Projections

## **US – CHINA TRADE**

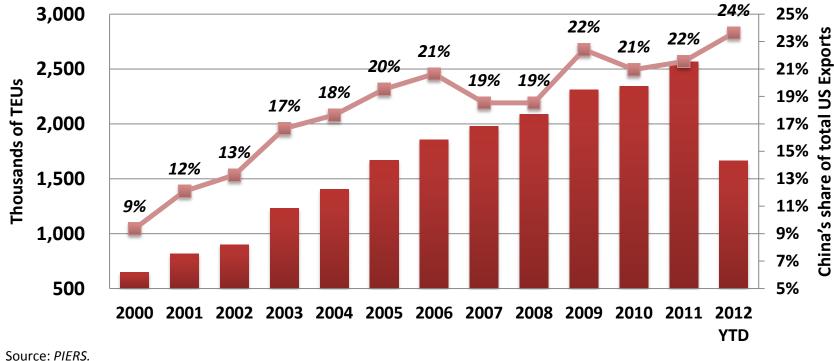


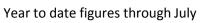
11



#### **US – CHINA CONTAINERIZED TRADE**

TEU Volume and China's Share of Total US Exports



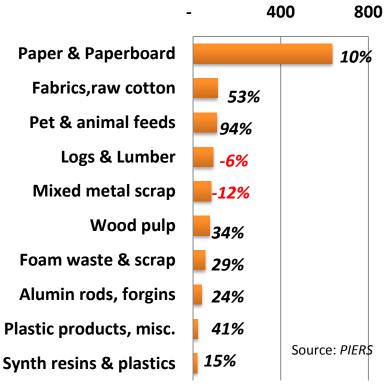


TEUs — China's share



#### **Top US Exports to China**

In Thousands of TEUs



- ✓ Largest export: Paper, paperboard
- Fastest growing commodity:
  Pet & Animal Feeds
  - Antidumping probe on US DDGs dropped
- ✓ Reefer goods

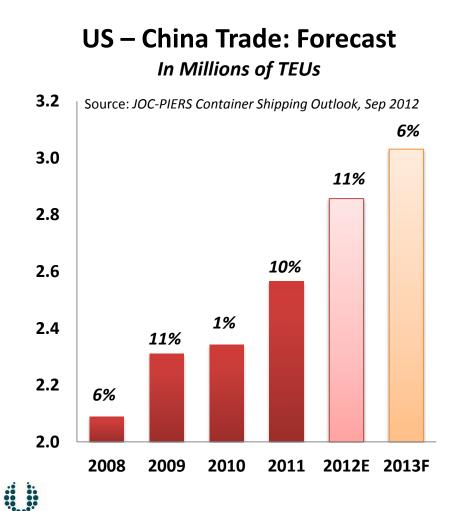


THE JOURNAL

**OF COMMERCE** 

## FORECAST FOR US – CHINA CONTAINERIZED TRADE





Global Trade

- ✓ Growth in outbound trade to China to decelerate somewhat over next year
- ✓ Global demand slowdown causing Chinese industrial output to slow
- ✓ Yuan US Dollar average exchange rate at 6.3 in 2013, merely unchanged from 2012 average (EIU)

# Summarizing....



## China – US container trade

- ✓ China is major supplier of furniture, apparel, footwear, and auto parts, but other developing economies are looming
- ✓ Shenzhen and Shanghai are the two ports handling the major goods shipments to the US
- ✓ China US containerized trade expected to grow modestly in 2013

## US – China container trade

- ✓ US exports key raw materials, and reefer goods
- ✓ Shanghai and Shenzhen handling most US shipments
- ✓ US China containerized trade expected to somewhat decelerate in 2013 on soft global demand





# THANK YOU!!

Mario O. Moreno Economist mmoreno@joc.com

