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PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Department of Commerce's SABIT Program partners with the Global Cold Chain Alliance to promote cold chain efficiency in Azerbaijan

As part of the U.S. government's commitment to supporting Azerbaijan's economic diversification and the development of its agricultural sector, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Special American Business Internship Training Program (SABIT) is partnering with the Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) based in Alexandria, Virginia, to bring experts to conduct cold storage and cold chain assessments at select agricultural companies in Baku and the regions of Azerbaijan. The assessments and consultations with the GCCA experts will benefit the companies by providing them recommendations for increasing efficiency, output, and quality of the products they produce, and assisting Azerbaijan to achieve its goals of increasing economic output in the agricultural sector.

SABIT is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the private sector to directly support Eurasian economic and civil society development by encouraging market-based reforms, while generating valuable export and investment opportunities for U.S. industry. These assessments and seminars support Azerbaijani government efforts to diversify its economy, specifically in the agricultural sector, by providing assistance and expertise to companies engaged in this sector in Azerbaijan.

The industry experts will be in Azerbaijan from September 6-9 and will visit six agricultural companies. They will meet with staff, conduct walkthroughs of the facilities to assess their cold storage, and discuss their findings and recommendations. At the completion of each assessment, the companies will receive a summary of the experts' recommendations.

In addition to the cold storage assessments, a Cold Storage and Cold Chain Logistics seminar will be held on Friday, September 9. This seminar will be led by the GCCA experts and will cover global trends and best practices in cold storage. Also featured will be new cold storage innovations and technologies and ways to optimize efficiency and conserve energy. 50 Azerbaijani industry professionals are registered to attend the seminar.

For more information on SABIT: www.trade.gov/sabit