



SelectGlobal, LLC

Newsletter | February 2025

Welcome!

You are receiving this newsletter because you have either expressed an interest in SelectGlobal, LLC or are already working with SelectGlobal, LLC.



Reflections and Connections:

As we navigate the monumental changes following the 2025 inauguration, we're very grateful to you, our newsletter subscribers, for your partnership and continued support.

Our SelectGlobal clients, are provided with early access to our market insights and analysis that help them stay ahead of the game. However, with so much changing, we wanted to share with you the trends that could really make a difference for your business this year.

What is Changing:

- **AI Acceleration:** AI is advancing 10 times faster, better, and cheaper than previously anticipated. This rapid development means that businesses can no longer afford to take a wait-and-see approach. Automation will redefine labor markets, reducing the need for human input in some sectors while increasing demand for new skill sets in others. AI-driven communication tools will streamline operations, but they will also create a more competitive landscape where differentiation becomes harder. Content creation, once a time-consuming process, is now being rapidly automated, shifting the value from production to strategy. Competitive advantages that once took years to build can now be replicated in months or even weeks. Businesses must proactively adopt AI solutions to stay relevant, while also being mindful of the ethical and regulatory implications surrounding AI implementation.
- **Fortress North America:** Not yet into the U.S. market? "Fortress North America" is no longer just a concept—it is an economic shift that is reshaping global trade. Rising geopolitical tensions, supply chain vulnerabilities, and protectionist policies are reinforcing the advantages of manufacturing, selling, and servicing products within North America rather than relying on imports. While being within the USMCA region (Canada and Mexico) offers some benefits, it is no longer a sufficient safeguard. The only real security lies in producing inside the United

States, where companies can fully insulate themselves from future tariffs, customs delays, and shifting trade policies. Industries such as renewable energy, semiconductors, and critical minerals are already seeing major government incentives for domestic production. For businesses, this means strategically locating operations within the U.S. to capitalize on emerging regional advantages and ensure long-term stability.

- **Energy Access and Speed to Power:** Large electricity users (over 10MW) are encountering growing challenges in securing reliable energy access, particularly in areas where grid constraints and permitting delays can stall projects for years. In response, companies are increasingly turning to energy independence strategies, such as integrating behind-the-meter solar microgrids with natural gas or battery backup systems. These hybrid solutions provide greater stability in energy costs, reduce exposure to utility rate volatility, and offer resilience against power outages. With federal and state-level incentives accelerating the deployment of distributed energy resources, businesses that take proactive steps toward energy self-sufficiency will gain a competitive edge in cost control and sustainability compliance.

What Will Not Change:

- **People Over Hardware:** Remember, people are always more important than technology. No matter how much automation or AI advances, human insight, decision-making, and leadership remain irreplaceable.
- **The Value of Personal Interaction:** Face-to-face and knee-to-knee meetings remain crucial for building trust and understanding. While digital communication has its place, real business relationships are forged in person.
- **The Power of Networks:** Your personal networks are invaluable; they are the backbone of business growth. Strategic connections will continue to be a major differentiator in business success.
- **Opportunity Everywhere:** There's opportunity all around; you just need to know where to look. Those who remain adaptable, curious, and forward-thinking will always find new ways to thrive.

Thank you to our clients for your continued trust and camaraderie. If you're exploring expansion opportunities or want to discuss how these trends might impact your business, reach out and let's talk. We're here to help.

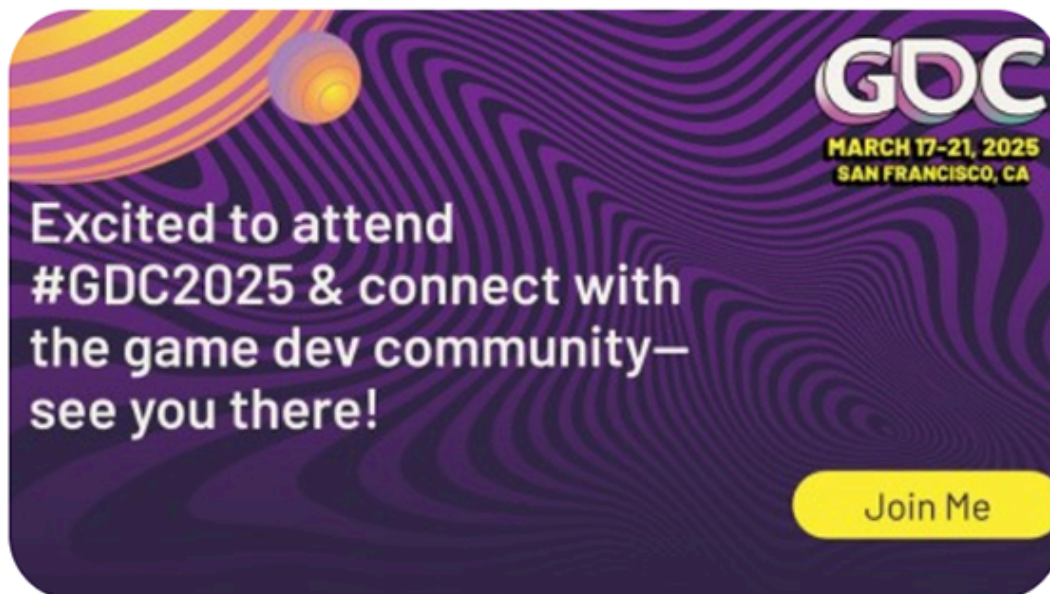
Michael Edgar,
Founder and CEO, SelectGlobal, LLC

Upcoming Events

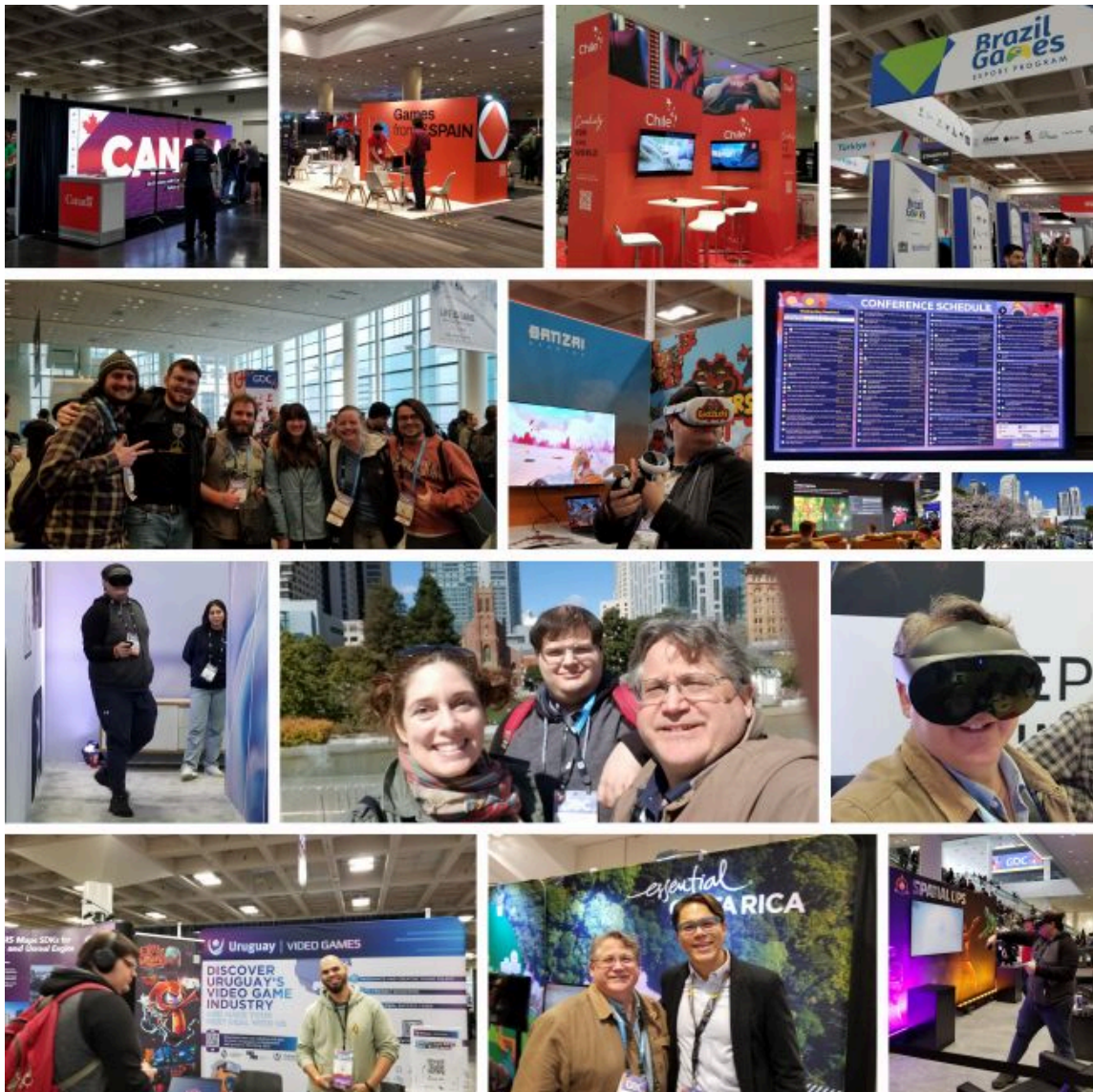
Game Developers Conference 2025

March 17-21, 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA



GDC 2025 is the game industry's premier professional event, held from March 17-21, 2025 in San Francisco, CA, USA. It brings together game developers to exchange ideas, solve problems, and shape the future of the industry. While we missed last year, in 2023 we had a blast. We met with many of our Trade commissioners and the companies they brought looking to expand their reach to US audiences. Time is always short, so please reach out to set a time to meet.



Business Facilities Event

April 9-11, 2025

LiveXchange



Company executives, corporate real estate professionals, and location advisors planning an expansion or relocation project face a significant challenge in deciding where to place their business.

Whether your company is looking for sites for corporate headquarters, data centers, manufacturing facilities, or assembly plants, finding the right location is a difficult, time-consuming, and costly exercise.

Business Facilities LiveXchange addresses this challenge by directly connecting site selectors with economic developers from across North America. You'll get the location information you need—direct from the source—to make the most informed decisions possible for your company.

[For more information on LiveXchange click here](#)



Announcements

FDI Blog Chain Series Update by SelectGlobal, LLC



In 2024, we introduced SelectGlobal's FDI Chain Blog Series, titled “How to Invest Locally and Internationally: Your FDI Roadmap - The Ultimate Guide to Investing in the USA.” This comprehensive series aims to provide invaluable insights and guidance on navigating the complexities of foreign direct investment, both within the United States and globally. Whether you are a seasoned investor or just starting out, this series promises to equip you with the knowledge you need to make informed investment decisions.

To get the complete list of this blog series, check this out: [FDI Chain Blog Series Table of Contents](#).

Stay tuned for more informative topics in our FDI Series!

Visit our [SelectGlobal Blog Site](#) for the latest updates.



Event Recaps

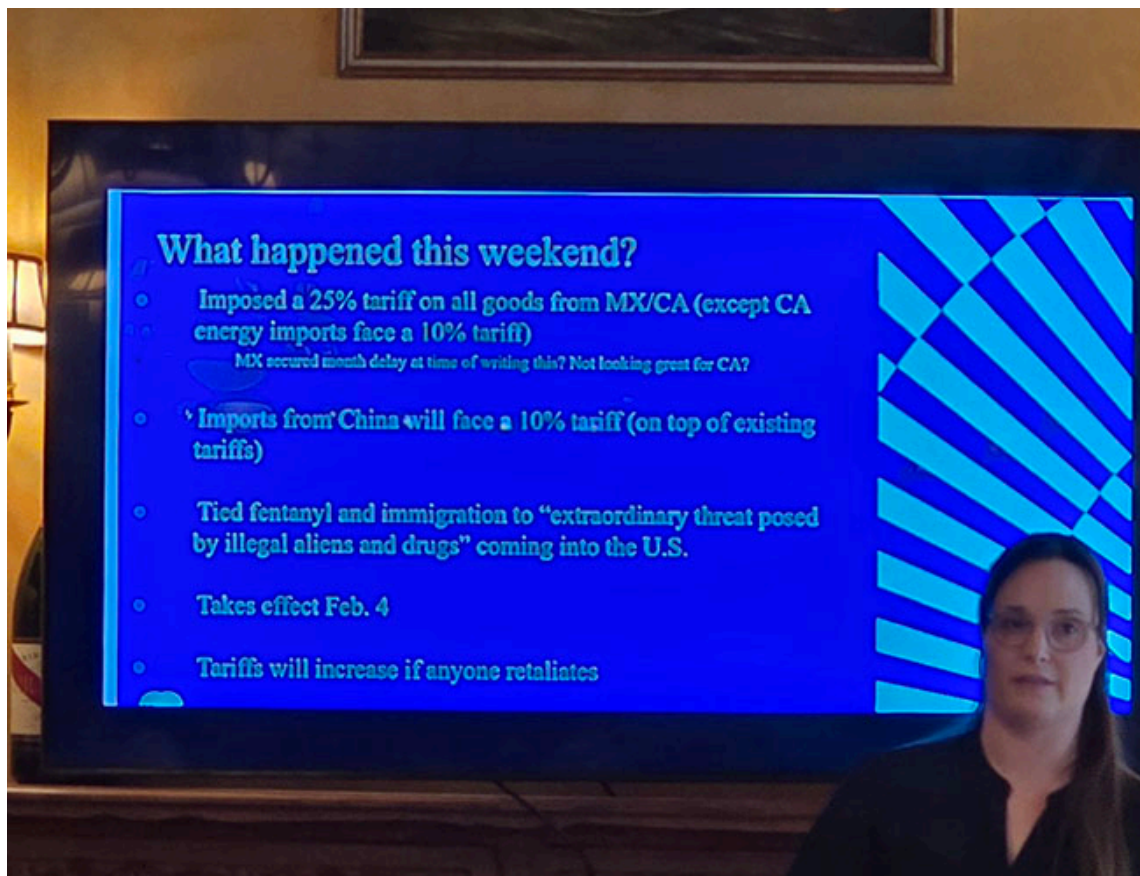
ITAGC Event

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

STATE OF PLAY: GLOBAL TRADE OUTLOOK 2025

Presentation by: Isabelle Icso Senior Director, International Policy

U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Special 25th Anniversary luncheon program sponsored by the International Trade Association of Greater Chicago. Presentation by Isabelle Icso, Senior Director, International Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, who provided an overview of what to expect on trade policy in 2025, including issues related to U.S.-China relations, tariffs, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, Congress, and more. She offered insights into how U.S. companies are approaching these issues and the short- and long-term implications in this space. Even more she explained, in detail, what happened over the weekend!



MEETING THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE: 2025 PERSPECTIVE ON AMERICAN MANUFACTURING RENAISSANCE

Presentation by Haydn Powell Founder & Chief Customer Officer Applix.ai



ITAGC hosted a full house discussing the opportunities for American reshoring. Over 40 people attended, and the post-event networking lasted for hours. ITAGC hosts events monthly. If you are in the Chicago metropolitan area, these are excellent opportunities for networking with Trade Commissioners, EDOs, and FDI Service professionals.



2024 Nostalgia: A Year of Unforgettable Highlights

2024

YEAR IN REVIEW



From groundbreaking technological innovations to profound shifts in global dynamics, 2024 offered a rich tapestry of experiences that shaped the world we know today. This year of nostalgia invites us to revisit the past and extract valuable lessons and inspiration for the future. Let's take a step back and revisit SelectGlobal's 2024 highlights.

Why SelectGlobal?



Why SelectGlobal?

SelectGlobal transforms how mid-sized companies expand globally by creating meaningful connections between businesses and communities. We mitigate the complexity of international expansion by managing everything from market entry to community integration while building lasting partnerships that benefit both our clients and local economies. Our extensive network of business and government relationships, combined with deep cross-sector expertise, drives your expansion toward sustainable growth and positive community impact.

Ready to begin your global expansion journey? Visit selectglobal.net to explore our approach, or schedule a consultation with our team to discuss your vision for international growth.

Visit the [SelectGlobal, LLC](http://selectglobal.net) website to learn more

If you were forwarded this newsletter from a friend and would like to formally opt-in to SelectGlobal, LLC, and be part of the process of bringing together businesses, municipalities, and capital to assemble new ventures, projects, and foreign direct investment to help rebuild and redevelop communities, please join us!

opt in!

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