Supply Chains are 'Instruments of Opportunity'

The Chamber Tuesday hosted a Global Supply Chain Series webinar focused on <u>protecting supply chains</u> during coronavirus. This virtual event was focused on key supply chain challenges during the coronavirus pandemic and the future of supply chains.

As part of the event, Chamber President Suzanne Clark interviewed Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf. Secretary Wolf detailed efforts to allocate personal protective equipment to hotspots around the country and explained coordinated response efforts across government agencies.

"We're doing a lot of different efforts on helping the U.S. government respond to COVID-19," said Wolf. "My focus is not only responding but making sure the Department is also able to support the restoration of the economy as we begin to open it back up. So there are a lot of efforts going on within the Department to make this a whole-of-government and whole-of-America response."

Wolf also spoke about the rise of fraudulent healthcare materials and DHS' focus on protecting the cybersecurity of our healthcare system, including suppliers, researchers, and pharmaceutical companies. He spoke of the need to marshal all of DHS' resources to address the counterfeiting situation.

Chamber CEO Tom Donohue closed out the event by emphasizing the importance of the global supply chain, and the opportunities it presents to the business community.

"Supply chains, along with good trade policy, help facilitate commerce and growth," Donohue said. "The pandemic has revealed some of the risks of living in an interconnected world, but it's important that we continue to see supply chains for what they are–instruments of opportunity, not conduits of risk."

Watch the discussion here.