

## Digital Tools Outreach Meeting

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**WEDNESDAY, September 14, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

The Office of Advocacy, an independent office within the U.S. Small Business Administration, is holding an outreach meeting in Anchorage, AK on September 14th to hear from small businesses about their views on access to and use of digital tools. The use of digital tools is a key enabler for Small- and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) to innovate, grow and compete. Its uptake varies significantly across sectors and regions. Beyond training and education gaps and market access barriers, SMEs face challenges regarding access to technologies, data, and finance.

In September 2021, The U.S.-E.U. Trade and Technology Council (TTC) held its inaugural meeting to reaffirm the TTC's objectives to coordinate approaches to key global technology, economic, and trade issues, and to deepen transatlantic trade and economic relations, based on shared democratic values. Various working groups comprised of federal agencies were formed to support these initiatives. The Office of Advocacy is a member of the SME Working Group.

**The purpose of the listening sessions with SMEs and underserved communities is to develop recommendations for U.S. and EU policymakers through the TTC that will help accelerate SME access to and the uptake of digital technologies.**

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. on September 14, 2022. The meeting will be held in the Moose Room at the Z.J. Loussac Library, located at 3600 Denali St, Anchorage, AK 99503. Further information will be provided upon your RSVP to [rosalyn.steward@sba.gov](mailto:rosalyn.steward@sba.gov).

#### Agenda

<b>1:00 – 1:10 PM</b>	<b>Opening Remarks and Welcome</b>
<b>1:10– 2:50 PM</b>	<b>Discussion on SME Access to and Use of Digital Tools</b>
<b>2:50 – 3:00 PM</b>	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

*Roundtables are open to all interested persons, with the exception of the press, in order to facilitate open and frank discussion on the subject matter. The purpose of these outreach meetings is to exchange opinions, facts and information and to obtain the attendees' individual views and opinions regarding small business concerns. The meetings are not intended to achieve or communicate any consensus positions of the attendees.*