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Abstract

**The Scaled Tariff: A Mechanism for Combating
Mercantilism and Producing Balanced Trade**

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In this article we first discuss whether or not the modern form of mercantilism that contributes to the trade deficit of the United States and other countries is a self-destructive and thus self-correcting strategy. We argue that it is not self-correcting. Then we discuss mechanisms that a trade-deficit country could utilize in order to produce balanced trade. The mechanisms differ in six respects, with the Scaled Tariff excelling in each.

Keywords: free trade, import certificate, mercantilism, tariff, trade deficit