



From the Desk of

**Michael Blichasz**

Host of the Saturday Variety Program at 11 A.M.  
1540 AM Radio WNWR • Philadelphia, PA

[AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com](http://AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com)

**Commentary from Saturday, November 28, 2009**

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### **Your Personal Choices!**

**Rising unemployment in America is a direct result of the growing number of imported items in our stores.** More jobs can be created in the United States of America only with the return of more manufacturing jobs in every state and every community. Changing the overwhelming amount of imported items in American stores **will not happen overnight**, but it will happen **if we change our shopping habits and seek out American made products first**. Quite frankly, if we don't force change now, the United States of America will continue to grow as a sales point for foreign products instead of the manufacturing powerhouse it used to be with products proudly made by American workers for both national consumption and sale on the international market. The **Buy American Made Campaign** continues to **urge you to help** U.S. businesses fill empty manufacturing facilities and offices with a dozen and one new job opportunities for millions of American workers.

The long-term growing unemployment rate has prompted more people to **look at tags** to see if there are competitive American made products in stores and to **speak up to sales clerks** in support of American made items. This is a positive sign because we all make a personal choice of what to buy and whom we are supporting every time we make a purchase. The fact that more businesses are advertising that their products are **"Proudly Made in America"** is another sign that **our concerns are being heard**.

As the Buy American Made Campaign continues, people are reporting that some sales clerks are very annoyed to hear the opinions of customers complaining about the lack of competitive American made items and the glut of foreign made products. I can understand a clerk's lack of concern, because they are presently employed and just doing their job. However, the point of speaking up for American Made is to **make sure sales clerks relay the message to store owners**, who have the responsibility of purchasing the items sold in their stores.

Today I encourage you to **set an example by purchasing American made items for your own household**. Let your family and friends know that you're supporting the **Buy American Made Campaign** and ask them to support your efforts to **maintain and restore employment opportunities** here in the U.S.A.

This is Michael Blichasz. I appreciate receiving your comments and suggestions. You can print out a copy of my commentary, email it to a friend or email me from my Internet site at:

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