



From the Desk of

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New Year's Resolutions!

Each of us has made some **New Year's Resolutions**. In support of the **Buy American Made Campaign**, I invite you to add the following to your list of resolutions.

1. Support the small, medium and large businesses in your community that feature a reasonable selection of American made products so they can continue to offer you quality products, **employ local people and keep your community vibrant**.

2. Every time you go shopping, take the time to look at the tags and packaging to see exactly where the items are being made and make it a point to **let store personnel know** that you are a supporter of American made products.

3. Contact your family and friends and ask them to **support the Buy American Made Campaign**. One major way to help restore employment opportunities in the United States of America is to have as many people as possible **buy American made products** and also **voice their concerns** at stores where American made products are not adequately represented.

Just these few resolutions can help make a difference. During the Christmas season, **Americans spent billions of dollars** on toys, clothing and hundreds of other gift items which were largely made in foreign countries, unfortunately **bypassing a large portion of American workers**.

It was great to see that America's stores were packed with merchandise, but **what percentage of the items were produced by American workers?** Last year we saw **millions of Americans lose their jobs** because the American **people did not react** as **businesses outsourced jobs around the world**. Today, the **American people** find themselves as **major consumers of foreign made products**, because so much of our **manufacturing base has been moved overseas**. The fact of the matter is that when there was less unemployment, people didn't realize that their fellow Americans would lose their jobs as the production of well-know American brand name items continued to be moved overseas. Now that we see what's been happening, we need to **respond by making the Buy American made Campaign a priority**. If we all focus on purchasing more American made items, even if it takes a little more effort, **we could see some of those empty manufacturing facilities filled again** by small, medium and large businesses who will hire American workers to meet the demand of America's consumers. If we **become more selective with our purchasing power**, we can make change possible. However, **it is going to take all of us working in solidarity** to get the message heard by the businesses who will see the benefit of expanding their operations here in the United States of America!

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:

AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com or MichaelSupportsAmerica.com.