



From the Desk of

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**Commentary from Saturday, May 9, 2009**

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My commentaries over the last few months offered suggestions on how to support American workers and a brief overview of what is happening to American employment opportunities. If you look at local communities where manufacturing once flourished, you can see how many of those jobs are gone. As you go shopping, I ask that you consider these questions: Did those companies go out of business or just move offshore to avoid paying taxes and paying American workers a liveable wage, and who is profiting from the products, formerly made in America, now being sold in American stores as imported items?

The loss of American jobs over the last 10 to 15 years is a cause for real concern. The loss of jobs has effected the well-being of our families and neighbors, and will affect even more American jobs and families in the next 10 to 15 years if we permit this trend to continue.

In the last few months, I have received hundreds of responses from people letting me know that there was an ongoing decline of American made products in their local stores for many years. However, because more Americans have become vocal about a balance between American made and imported products, people now report that they see some additional American made items being featured where they shop.

The “Buy American Made Campaign” can and will be a success if we all do what is best for the American economy and take a second look at everything we purchase, every time we go shopping. Looking for, asking for and purchasing American Made products will help American companies remain in business and help keep Americans employed. But it’s going to take all of us acting together!

This is **Michael Blichasz**, and as always, I appreciate hearing from you. I welcome your comments and suggestions and ask that you spread the word to others. You can email me from my Internet site at: [AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com](http://AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com)