



From the Desk of

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Were Competitive Products Available?

A growing number of people are speaking up about the **made in America issue**, but **more of your voices need to be heard**. At this point we clearly see that **foreign made items are holding us captive** because there are so few American made products in our stores. **Look at the labels** on your cell phone, computer, television, radio, iron, toaster and other electronic items. Were there competitive American made products available for you to consider?

At one time, **manufacturing** electronic items **was a major source of jobs in the U.S.A.** As American living standards increased, the cost of manufacturing increased and businesses found ways to cut costs and outsource manufacturing to countries where labor was cheap and living standards much lower. **Outsourcing without competitive American made items in U.S. stores has now caused a major imbalance of products available in most major stores.** Unless we pledge to go out of our way to support products made in the U.S.A even though they may cost a little more, we'll see more businesses close their manufacturing facilities and outsource to other parts of the world in search of a better bottom line.

Why did outsourcing expand at such a rapid pace? It happened because **business owners** saw they **could bypass American workers and flood the American market with every type of foreign goods, and the American people would buy them without question.** If more consumers had directed their purchasing power to a balance of American made and competitive imported products, there would be more jobs in America. To help the cause, when you reach for a product, **look to see where it was made before you make your purchase.** Look around to see if there is an American made product on the shelf. If not, call over the manager or store clerk to voice your disappointment and then **consider shopping elsewhere.**

This is Michael Blichasz. I always appreciate receiving your comments and suggestions. Email a copy of this weeks commentary to your family members and friends. There is an email link on the front page of: AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com. You can also long on to: MichaelSupportsAmerica.com.