



From the Desk of

Michael Blichasz

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

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How You Spend Your Money

I thank everyone who has responded to my Buy American Made commentaries. We all agree that too many items on the American market are imported from other countries and the lack of American made products in some stores needs to be addressed. No one is discouraging worldwide competition in our stores, we are simply seeing **imported products overpower the U.S. Marketplace.**

People agree that taxes and regulations on businesses drove many companies abroad in search of cheaper labor, lower taxes and more profit. Some blame government and labor leaders, while others blame the American people for not reacting as they watched thousands of local and national companies pack up and leave America without a major reaction. If people had spoken up over the last 25 years, things would be much different today. It is only now as we see more and more Americans losing their jobs and stability that people are reacting and demanding change. Now that so much damage has been done, it will take a lot more effort to turn this difficult situation around. However, it can be done if local and national government officials, leaders of businesses large and small, and labor leaders unite for the benefit of American workers and America's economy. I'm suggesting that government officials, business leaders and labor leaders make plans to meet and set a timeline for action. They should also discuss upgrading workforce training at every level, seek appropriate adjustments in wages and benefits for workers and modernizing America's manufacturing facilities so we can be competitive in the world market.

The main purpose of my Buy American Made commentaries is to get people to think about how we can help reverse the trend of the past 25 years and help the businesses we still have in the U.S.A. remain viable and continue to employ Americans. I am urging you to **spend your dollars wisely** and stimulate American businesses so they can retool and produce more products for both domestic consumption and foreign export. Together we can reverse today's trend and return to a balance of domestic and imported products in our stores. Take the time to **look at the tags on the products** you're shopping for and you will see what I mean. This is a grassroots effort to make people think about how they spend their money and, in the process, help maintain the industries and jobs we have, with the long-term goal of restoring even more jobs in the U.S.A. Consider how you can support the Buy American Made Campaign, especially by seeking out American made products each time you go shopping.

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 your family and friends. You can email me from my Internet site at: AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com or log on to: MichaelSupportsAmerica.com.

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