

## **Quotes and Statements from Tuesday, April 8, 2008 Pennsylvania Telephone Conference Call Press Event**

### **Gail Meyer**

Vice President UNITE HERE  
Pennsylvania Joint Board, Associate Manager

“My union, UNITE HERE represents thousands of workers in Pennsylvania including garment workers.

Our surviving garment factories and garment workers have fought hard to remain viable.

We have focused on the nearly impossible task of staying in business and competing with off shore factories. Labor management cooperation is our motto.

Sophisticated attempts have been made by the industry with the cooperation of the Union to keep a Pennsylvania garment industry in business including major investments in state of the art equipment plus the implementation of quick turnaround production.

Despite these attempts, job losses have been heavy. When a company closes, the good jobs with benefits are lost.

The solution to maintaining the Pennsylvania garment industry is not on the factory floor or the bargaining table but in Congress and the Executive Branch.

There must be a major change in US trade policy and a commitment to invest in Pennsylvania manufacturing jobs.”

### **Sam Shiffler**

Vice President  
Mold Base Industries  
Harrisburg, PA

“NAFTA is not the whole trade issue. We also need to look at the VAT, currency manipulation and dumping issues. Perhaps Congress can do something to help retain U.S. manufacturing – take away tax incentives to manufacture offshore as a start. There is so much Congress can do and it’s time to start demanding action.”

### **Hank Truslow Jr.** (Truslow will not be participating in the conference call)

President  
Sunbury Textile Mills  
Sunbury PA

“We need candidates and government that talk about the real reason that our manufacturing jobs are being driven out of this country – and that’s bad trade policy. First and foremost, its trade policy that allows China to cheat and take our jobs with nothing but a wink and a nod from Washington. American workers do a great job but it’s awfully hard to compete against an entire country’s government and that’s what we’re up against with China. We need tough solutions from the candidates against currency manipulation and other illegal and unfair Chinese trade practices and that’s exactly what we haven’t heard yet.”

Press Release  
For Immediate Release  
April 8, 2008

Contact: Melissa Millhuff, Executive Dir.  
630-980-7667

AMERICAN MOLD BUILDERS ASSOCIATION RESPONDS TO  
AMERICAN MANUFACTURING TRADE ACTION COALITION  
PENNSYLVANIA MANUFACTURING JOBS REPORT

MEDINAH, IL – The American Mold Builders Association (AMBA), in collaboration with the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition (AMTAC), is speaking out about the lack of emphasis being placed on the decline in manufacturing and consequently, in high-paying manufacturing jobs, by politicians running for President of the United States. Manufacturing's declining investment in the U.S. and in the American worker is having dire consequences on the economy as high-paying manufacturing jobs are being replaced by lower paying service-sector jobs, resulting in a lower standard of living not just for the people in Pennsylvania but for people nationwide.

“This report clearly shows the dismal effects of Free Trade agreements on an economy that used to be known as the manufacturing giant of the world,” said Steve Rotman, President of the AMBA and President/owner of Ameritech Die & Mold Inc. ( Mooresville, NC). “We as the AMBA are trying to get this message out to the public as well as existing and future elected officials.”

What is happening in Pennsylvania is happening across America, as U.S. manufacturers are lured offshore by cheap labor, lax regulatory policies, border-adjusted tax schemes such as the VAT, export subsidies, non-tariff barriers, and U.S. trade policy that encourages offshore investment.

The members of the AMBA have felt the pain of the loss of manufacturing as approximately one-quarter of U.S. mold manufacturers have gone out of business thanks to declining demand from U.S.-based manufacturing companies. The AMBA is standing strong with the AMTAC and other manufacturing trade organizations to get the attention of our political leaders in the federal government to take notice of the fact that U.S. manufacturing is being decimated, along with the heart and soul of the American worker.

“We applaud the AMTAC for their continued activity to raise the issue of the devastating effects from the loss of manufacturing as a consequence of the failure to properly implement and enforce free trade agreements,” Rotman stated. “Every day that candidates are not focused on fixing manufacturing is another day hurting Pennsylvania.”

Political problems require political solutions, and only the federal government has policy jurisdiction over foreign trade issues. Therefore it is up to Congress and the Executive Branch to address them. Congress must pass the Ryan-Hunter bill, strong anti-currency manipulation legislation that contains CVD and anti-dumping trade remedies. AMBA urges Congressional action to pass this bill immediately.

“The issues that we in manufacturing face on an ongoing basis are a solemn reminder of the failure of these Free Trade agreements to deliver all the positives that were promised by the politicians,” Rotman said. “We hope that acting with the AMTAC will draw the plight of Pennsylvania's manufacturing job losses to the attention of those in Congress who sit in a stalemate and do nothing.”

The American Mold Builders Association is an industry trade organization founded and run by American mold manufacturers. For more than 30 years, the AMBA has been the voice of the mold manufacturing industry, supporting its members in Best Business Practices, promoting its member companies to qualified OEM mold purchasers, and educating OEMs, molders and others of the value and benefits of buying molds made in the USA by American mold builders.

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## Coalition for a Prosperous America

News Release

April 8, 2008

Contact: Fred Stokes, 601.527.2459



### **CPA Welcomes AMTAC Study, Urges Comprehensive National Competitiveness Policy**

The Coalition for a Prosperous America, a unique grass-roots coalition of American producers in all sectors, hailed the study released today by the American Manufacturers Trade Action Coalition.

“AMTAC has performed a public service in issuing a report that lays out, in stark statistical detail, the damage done to Pennsylvania and America by the failed trade and economic policies pursued by our government,” said Fred Stokes, CPA’s president. “The facts make clear we need to rethink trade policy before approving new trade agreements. The presidential candidates should commit to a full re-evaluation of trade policy.”

The study, authored by the respected economist Charles McMillion, found:

- Pennsylvania has lost 208,000 manufacturing jobs since 2001;
- The new jobs created in the state pay much lower than the jobs lost;
- This loss of quality jobs has a ripple effect, downgrading the quality of living of many other Pennsylvania citizens;
- The gains promised by promoters of Free Trade Agreements have been untrue.

“American manufacturers all know how devastating the past seven years have been for those who have chosen to continue producing in the United States. These manufacturers are the best in the world, achieving record productivity despite unfair foreign trade practices like currency manipulation and tax subsidies,” said Rob Dumont, CPA vice president who also heads the Tooling, Manufacturing, and Technologies Association. “The current Free Trade Agreements promote outsourcing, trade deficits and debt. But what we are really outsourcing is the American Dream.”

CPA renews its call for the presidential candidates to commit themselves now to a new approach to the global marketplace. “America is the only major country without a national economic strategy,” said Bob Baugh, executive director of the AFL-CIO Industrial Unions Council and a CPA board member. “US-based producers – whether on the farm, the ranch, or in the factory – are the most productive in the world, but cannot compete when our policies are both haphazard and economically hazardous.”

On behalf of the nearly three million citizens represented by CPA member companies and associations, Stokes urged that the presidential candidates to address the issues of real concern to American farmers, manufacturers and workers. “America needs a president who will demand that all parts of the government put aside narrow agendas and special interests and focus on the national interest. The next administration should coordinate of our trade, tax, energy, infrastructure and product safety policies to ensure that together they enhance, not undermine, the national interest,” concluded Stokes.

*The Coalition for a Prosperous America (CPA) is a national grass roots organization representing farmers, ranchers, manufacturers and workers seeking a better trade policy that benefits America.*