



SEAMS.....Important

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the SEAMS Association

Volume XXXII, Number 5.....September/October, 2010

The National Association
for the
Sewn Products Industry

IFAI Expo Americas 2010 Orlando, Florida October 27-29

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COMING EVENTS

November 18-19, 2010
WRAP 10th Anniv. Conference
Embassy Suites Hotel
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

May 19-21, 2011
SEAMS Spring Conference
Marriott at Grande Dunes
Myrtle Beach, SC

April 24-26, 2012
Texprocess Americas Expo
Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, GA



Jim Lovejoy, SEAMS Marketing Director, manned the booth with the help of SEAMS Member, Doug La Roe of Printcraft Company, Inc.

"The SEAMS presence at the Industrial Fabrics Association International (IFAI) Expo Americas 2010 in Orlando received a lot of attention because of our uniqueness on the show floor. There were many attendees looking for specific products and some showed considerable interest in SEAMS membership. We handed out brochures and catalogs from Printcraft Company, Inc.; Hickory Brands, Inc.; Gerald Schwartz, Inc.; and HomTex, Inc.; who were our booth sponsors along with Contempora Fabrics, Inc.

When the leads we received are counted, the show will be a successful effort."
Jim Lovejoy, SEAMS Marketing Manager

"It was great working the booth with Jim Lovejoy -- he helped me with the message as I am a new member. He was great at spreading the word, and I learned a lot from him. We were busy explaining who we are at SEAMS. Many folks were very excited to hear about a group that is promoting a Made-in-USA Supply Chain. Our best draw was the products on display in our booth to get the attention of attendees. Hickory Brands was the star and brought us a lot of attention which allowed us to go into the mission of SEAMS. The message was always well received! You missed out if you didn't send products or brochures down to the show!"

Doug La Roe,
Printcraft Company, Inc.



SEAMS Fall Networking Conference Highlights

**Gerald Cauthen of
Contempora Fabrics, Inc.
Chosen SEAMS Person of the Year!**



*He was presented with a plaque by
SEAMS President Gerald Schwartz at the
Networking Reception & Dinner on
Saturday, October 2, 2010, at the
SEAMS Fall Networking Conference in
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.
Congratulations Gerald!*



*SEAMS Secretary/Treasurer
Steve Anderson celebrates his
Anniversary with wife, Judith.*

THANK YOU to all who attended our
Fall Networking Conference at the
Marriott at Grande Dunes in
Myrtle Beach, SC.

SEAMS had such a strong turn-out, and we all
enjoyed the location so much, we're returning
in May for our Spring Networking Conference.

See you there!

Congratulations to our other Golf Winners:

***Putting Contest:** Sarah Friedman,
SEAMS Executive Director*

***Closest to the Pin:** Matt Poovey,
Champion Thread Company*

***Longest Drive:** Larry McGee,
American & Efid, Inc.*

Golf Tournament Winners



*Left to Right:
Matt Poovey, Champion Thread Co.; Stacey Bridges,
Carolina Cotton Works; & Jim Garner, Creative Outlet*

Suppliers of:

Plastic & Metal Hardware, Hook & Loop, Zippers, Fabrics, Snaps,
Cording (elastic & non), Elastic (woven & knit), Webbing, Thread, & more.



4756 Hammermill Rd. #401
Tucker, GA 30084

Phone: 770-493-9443 Fax: 770-938-8816
Email: Gerald@GeraldSchwartzInc.com
Chuck@GeraldSchwartzInc.com



"We help you keep it together!"

The SEAMS Team -- Supply Chain USA



**SEAMS Members
can make
ANYTHING!
If your project
involves putting
a needle
through cloth,
someone from
SEAMS can help!**

The SEAMS Association is a **COMPLETE SUPPLY CHAIN** comprised of a wide variety of companies who can do anything. Through this network of contacts we can find anything that you need in your daily operations, even that once-in-a-while "thingamajig" that you didn't know you needed. We get phone calls and emails in the SEAMS office every day with requests for help, both from members and from nonmembers. These requests are sent out by Email and Fax to our entire membership -- **and we know that a SEAMS Member will come through with a solution.**

Since the last newsletter, the SEAMS office has received lots of requests for help:

We received requests for **companies to sew:** boys' shirts, Class A uniform shirts and EMT/BDU/4-pocket trousers, various aprons for annual contract, bed linens, dress shirts, jeans, uniforms, foundations, ladies' camisoles, children's pajamas, cotton & silk resort-wear dresses, bras, women's jeans, handbags, ski- & snow-wear, leather satchels, women's bathing suits, ball caps, ladies' apparel, children's woven nylon "fishing" shirts, blankets, long- and short- sleeve t-shirts, and cloth handbags.

We received requests for **sources for:** 50/50 bamboo/recycled poly yarn, goring elastic, patternmaker, and woven labels.

We received requests for **help selling:** 81 sewing machines, 3 Bierribi cutters, 22 automated bottom and 8 automated sleeve hemmers, vinyl-back 83/13 cotton/poly terry fabric, polyester jersey fabric, and polyester rib knit fabric.

We receive requests for help finding equipment

We received calls **seeking personnel to fill positions for:** Sewing Machine Mechanic, Plant Manager, Sales Representative, Apparel Engineer, PLM Implementation Manager, and Product Development and Technical Design Manager.

As you can see, we get a wide variety of requests in the office. By tapping into our **COMPLETE SUPPLY CHAIN**, we are able to help most people who contact us.

So remember, whatever you need, **SEAMS CAN HELP!**

HAVE YOU HEARD?

SEAMS' Benefits Providers are constantly working to provide our members with ways to **cut bottom-line costs**. There are always new products offered and new ways to save you money. Here is a sampling of how they have helped SEAMS Members:

*"Two years ago our **HEALTH INSURANCE** provider of 27 years gave us a tremendous increase, which forced us to shop the market. Through SEAMS we met with Ed Miller at PFP and asked him to find us a replacement carrier with similar benefits.*

PFP found us a better plan for 30% less cost. To say that I am pleased would be an understatement."

Roy Katz, Richloom Home Fashions
Clinton, South Carolina

CONTACT: Ed Miller, Professional Financial Planning,
803-750-4849

*"Our company investigated locally for quotes on **PROPERTY & CASUALTY**. We then tried the Theodore Agency and they saved us 50% on our coverage. I recommend them to all SEAMS members."*

Cary Friedman, Aiken Industries
Aiken, South Carolina

CONTACT: Larry Nadel, Theodore & Associates,
803-799-9979

*"Thanks to WebMillers our **ADVERTISING** on the SEAMS website now looks wonderful! We are getting lots of hits and great new contacts for business!"*

Dan Viperman, Lebanon Apparel
Lebanon, Virginia

CONTACT: Eric Miller, WebMillers Design & Hosting
803-750-4849

*Diamond Management Group provides services in all aspects of **LOGISTICS** including international and domestic transportation, distribution centre and warehouse operations, outsourcing and supply chain assessment. Call for your **FREE FREIGHT REVIEW** to see how you can benefit!*

CONTACT: Paul Catalogna, Diamond Management Group,
781-665-9647

Please send your comments about your experience with Productive Solutions, LLC and how Rick Ludolph has helped your company with its marketing efforts. You may email Kim at kim.bickford@seams.org.

Your Name, Your Company
City, State

FOR MARKETING CONSULTING SERVICES,
CONTACT: Rick Ludolph, Productive Solutions,
770-321-9842

SEAMS' Benefits Providers offer:

Life, Health, & Supplemental Insurance plans;
Workers' Comp and Property & Casualty coverage;
Website Design & Hosting;
Transportation & Logistics, and Marketing Consulting.
Contact the SEAMS office or any of our benefits providers to start saving today.

Dunn Trimming & Binding Co.

Since 1905

Monroe, NC

Insure your survival against Imports!

Custom Printed Fabrics • Contract & Custom Sewing

★ Made in the USA! ★ • \$4,000,000 Inventory!



Invest just two minutes of your time:

Call 800-868-7111 for FREE Samples & Quotes! We do the difficult jobs! We run all of our orders quickly and efficiently.

Dunn Trimming gives you *Peace of Mind*.

One Stop Amazing Service!

Bias Binding 130 Colors

- Your Fabric or Ours
- Slit or Wide Goods
- Full stock of 45" - 60"
- Broadcloth/Twills
- Nylon Taffeta/Oxford
- Nonwoven
- Cotton/Polycotton
- Satin
- Tricot
- Ribknit/Interlock
- Waistbands/Sweatbands
- Cordedge/Piping
- Shoe Binding
- Spiral Cut Ribknit
- Pre-Folded Binding
- Round Filled Spaghetti
- Government Spec Trim

Fancy Stitchings

- Elastic Shirring
- Crochet
- Strapping
- Hemming
- Pointpleat
- Boxpleating
- Ruffling
- Trapunto
- Multistripe Woven Trim
- Multi-Needle Trims
- Tucking - Multi-Needle
- Picotedge
- Belting
- Purledge
- Shelledge
- Ruching
- Smocking
- Wire-Edge

Trims

Pleating

- Crystal • Box • Side

Webbing

- Tote Bag Type

Elastic

- Webbing • Braid

Tape

- Herringbone • Plain

Drawstrings & Hood Cords

- Tipped • Spools

Hook & Loop

- Piping Filler Cords

Slitting Rewinding

Outstanding Prices & Selection!

Over 3,000 sewing plants place their trust in us. Dunn family owned since 1905, with no reorganizations. We must be doing something right!

The prices are always competitive, and we will help you find items we don't carry in stock.

www.dunntrimming.com

Dunn Trimming & Binding Co.

800.868.7111

Fax 704.289.6857

1400 Goldmine Road, Monroe, NC 28110

Welcome New Members!

SUPERTEX, INC.

312 West Luther Avenue, Liberty, NC 27298
Tel: 336-622-1000 Fax: 336-622-1002
Web: www.supertex-inc.com and www.earthknit.com
Email: info@supertex-inc.com
Edward Cumins, President

Established in 1982, Supertex, Inc. is a fully integrated and vertical warp knitting mill. We are engaged in the production of raschel and tricot fabrics for a wide range of textile applications. Supertex also manufactures industrial mesh warp knitted structures such as geosynthetic geogrids, erosion control, apparel, home furnishings, automotive, ticking, military, and high strength tubular knits for wattles, packaging, and absorbent booms. Our services include dyeing, finishing, and coating, to widths up to 220 inches. Our philosophy of innovation, technology, and experience has resulted in our positive growth and success.

PHAZE ONE CLOSEOUTS, LLC

2071 Flatbush Avenue, Room #30, Brooklyn, NY 11234
Tel: 732-677-6769 Fax: 718-879-5835
Email: phaze1closeouts@yahoo.com
David Gindi, CEO

Phaze One Closeouts, LLC buys and sells any and all closeouts, overruns, irregulars, and liquidations in undergarments or apparel of any kind. A majority of our business is women's and girls' undergarments: bras, panties, shapers, sleepwear, and lingerie; and men's and boys' t-shirts and dress shirts.

Welcome New Members Cont.!

ADVANCED SEWING TECHNOLOGIES CORP.

210 Penn Street, Floor 2, Pittsburg, PA 15215
Tel: 412-781-3222 Fax: 412-781-3245
Web: www.advancedsewing.com
Email: advsew@aol.com
Arthur Kleitz, President

Advanced Sewing Technologies Corp. is a supplier of quality late model used and new sewing machines. We are distributors and dealers for major brands, and buy sewing machine inventories from one machine to entire factories. Choose from our inventory of over 3,000 used sewing machines. We offer a complete line of parts, supplies, needles, spreading equipment, cutting equipment, and material handling.

PRINTCRAFT COMPANY, INC.

259 City Lake Road, PO Box 477, Lexington, NC 27295
Tel: 336-248-2544 Fax: 336-248-8174
Web: www.printcraftcompany.com
Email: marvinsmith@pcraftinc.com
Marvin Smith, CEO

Printcraft Company, Inc. is a 75+-year-old label and tag company. We provide a broad range of labeling products including woven labels, printed fabric labels, heat transfers (tagless), military spec labels, pressure sensitive stickers, law tags, RFID labels, and decorative ribbon. We are Berry compliant and produce our products in Lexington, NC. In addition to our USA facilities, we have a company-owned plant in Wuxi, China, and have a new plant scheduled to open January 2011 in El Salvador.

Dues Discount Incentive Program

The SEAMS Dues Discount Incentive Program helps us grow and helps our members! SEAMS members can earn discounts toward their next dues invoice by signing up new members.

For every NEW MEMBER that a current member signs up, SEAMS will apply a **20% discount** to the current member company's next dues invoice, **up to 100%**. If you sign up five (5) new member companies within one year, you could owe us nothing for your next years' dues!

We encourage members to talk to their colleagues in the sewn products industry to encourage them to join SEAMS. Let us know who you are speaking to, and we will mail them an informational packet that will answer all of their questions. We see this as an on-going membership drive, with the added bonus for current members of reducing their dues.

SEAMS is...a not-for-profit association working for the improvement of the domestic sewn products industry...**since 1967.**

Referral Sources:

- Supertex, Inc.....
Referred by: SPESA Expo 2010
- Phaze One Closeouts, LLC
Referred by: Brooks Brothers' Garland Shirt Company
- Advanced Sewing Technologies Corp. ...
Referred by: NISH
- Printcraft Company, Inc.
Referred by: SPESA Expo 2010, & Patriot Outfitters, Inc.

Welcome New Members Cont.!

LIZBETH, INC. DBA BARRYBASICS

PMB 346, 10120 Two Notch Road, Suite 2, Columbia, SC 29223

Tel: 803-736-7536 Fax: 803-419-3935

Web: www.albarrystartup.org

Email: lizabethsc@aol.com

Liz Taylor-Barry, President/Owner

Lizabeth, Inc. is a start-up company introducing a new line of apparel: modular medical apparel (patent pending) for patients in recovery or rehabilitation, as well as hospice. The product line will be USA Made if possible.

BROGDEN LOGISTICS

1050 Yelverton Grove Road, PO Box 1596, Smithfield, NC 27577

Tel: 919-934-4218 Fax: 919-934-9709

Web: www.brogdenlogistics.com

Email: allenw@brogdenlogistics.com

Allen D. Westbrook, President & CEO

As contractors for government and retail sewing, Brogden Logistics features a very experienced, flexible workforce with wide product experience at all levels, coupled with an intensive engineering production environment. We have an unusual variety of current model sewing equipment capable of handling wide array of fabric/product types. Additional assets include: online Gerber plotter/marker, embroidery and screen-printing, die cutting, fusing, and large-field programmable pattern-sew equipment. The entire organization is geared for exceptionally high quality sewing production as required by Military Specification and Life Support items. ISO certified.

Welcome New Members Cont.!

ENVIRONMENTS, INC.

501 Carteret Street, PO Box 1348, Beaufort, SC 29901-1348

Tel: 843-524-2525 Fax: 843-524-0137

Web: www.environments.com

Email: bhoogenboom@eichild.com

Beecher Hoogenboom, CEO

Environments, Inc. is a manufacturer of equipment and materials for early education and childcare. Sewn products include: bibs, sheets, blankets, soft toys, banners, and adult smocks.

ELMORE PRODUCTS, LLC

PO Box 63, Spartanburg, SC 29304

Tel: 864-474-1064 Fax: 864-474-9905

Web: www.elmoreproducts.net

Email: joe@elmoreproducts.net

Joe Elmore, CEO

Elmore Products, LLC is a wholesale textile broker of discount wholesale fabrics to manufacturers, trades, and retail—and we work to be the best—offering the lowest prices on a wide and ongoing variety of fabrics. Our customers tell us Elmore Products is the best source they've found for promotional and budgetary piece goods. Elmore Products is a wholesale fabric distributor of a wide variety of textiles, including but not limited to: denims, apparel, drapery, napery, home decorative, automotive, polyesters, cotton twills, poplins, cotton, oxfords, nylon and Lycra, apparel goods, and linings. We offer several different price and quality categories from yard to pound goods and rolled to baled goods.

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Referral Sources:

- Lizbeth, Inc. DBA BarryBasics
Referred by: SEAMS Website
- Brogden Logistics
Referred by: American & Efird, Inc., and Gerald Schwartz, Inc.
- Environments, Inc.
Former member rejoining!
- Elmore Products, LLC.....
Referred by: Milliken & Company

Welcome New Members Cont.!

LION TRADING, INC.

8 Haven Avenue, Suite 208, Port Washington, NY 11050-3636

Tel: 516-883-6148 Fax: 516-883-6149

Web: www.liontrading.com

Email: deuxlions@aol.com

Mario Leonetti, President

Lion Trading, Inc. sells a variety of fabrics at discount prices for the industrial and medical uniform trade, including Poly/Cotton and Polyester Poplins and Twills, as well as printed and solid nurse and doctor uniform scrubs. Whether you need continuous piece goods for your uniform business, or you're looking for promotional items, we carry first-quality, mill seconds finished first and merchantable seconds at discounted pricing. We hold over 500,000 yards of job-lot uniform fabrics to fill your 'one-off' needs as well as to establish program purchasing for smaller manufacturers.

ANIA APPAREL, LLC

PO Box 25593, Greenville, SC 29616

Tel: 864-678-0608

Web: www.aniaapparel.com

Email: angela@aniaapparel.com

Angela Santerini, CEO

Ania Apparel, LLC is a manufacturer of women's and girls' knit apparel, and medical outfits and caps for cancer patients.

Welcome New Members Cont.!

JEFFERSON YARNS, INC.

27 Valley Street, PO Box 698, Pulaski, VA 24301-0698

Tel: 540-980-1530 Fax: 800-729-5881

Web: www.jeffersonyarns.com

Email: davespangler@jeffersonyarns.com

David Spangler, President & CEO

Jefferson Yarns, Inc. is a supplier of textured and twisted nylon and polyester for sewn products of all types. We are generally capable of producing yarns within a range from 30 to 840 denier either as textured, twisted, or thrown. Package sizes can be tailored to fit your specific requirements. We can put yarn up on tubes, cones, or dye tubes. Our yarns include: hosiery, lace yarns, circular knit fabric yarns, micro fiber stretch textured yarns, weaving yarns, narrow fabrics yarns, and sewing threads. Also available: flat twisted yarns and cable twisted yarns in various lusters, tenacities, and twist levels.

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Referral Sources:

- Lion Trading, Inc.
Referred by: Milliken & Company
- Ania Apparel, LLC.....
Referred by: A.S. Tees Manufacturing
- Jefferson Yarns, Inc.
Referred by: Manufacturing Solutions Center

Leigh Launches Carpet and Plastics Recycling Company

October 12, 2010

Leigh Fibers, Inc. has established a dedicated business unit to divert discarded carpet and plastic from landfills and turn it into fibers and densified product used by plastics molders. Current and near-term equipment installations will give Leigh Carpet & Plastics Recycling, LLC the capacity to keep more than 100 million pounds a year of used carpet out of landfills, which would increase the volume currently diverted in the United States by about one-third.

“Every ton of carpet we can recycle saves 198 gallons of oil and prevents the emission of two metric tons of greenhouse gases,” said George Martin, Executive Vice President of Marketing and Sales for Leigh Fibers. “Our goal is to reduce the nearly 3.5 million pounds of post-consumer carpet waste that goes into landfills each year, while giving customers the high-quality materials they need to mold new products.”

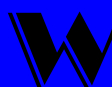
“Not many U.S. companies have the capability to separate the face fibers from the carpet backing and sort them by type,” said Martin, “and fewer still can turn those fibers into densified product, ready for molders to use. Leigh Carpet & Plastics Recycling has the equipment and experience to do both.”

The new venture is already reprocessing the most common carpet fibers — Nylon 6, Nylon 6.6, polypropylene, and polyester — at a one-million-square-foot facility in South Carolina operated by its parent company. Leigh Fibers has long been one of the world’s leading processors of textile waste and fiber by-products, providing standard and custom products to meet demanding specifications in many different markets.

“Reprocessing plastics and carpet is a natural extension for a company that’s been reprocessing textile fibers for much of the last century,” said Martin, “and we expect it to play a significant role in Leigh’s future growth. We’ve been refining our processes for the past several years and are ready to be a major supplier in this market, as we are in our other markets.”

Leigh Fibers is a global processor of textile waste and fiber by-products, serving the automotive, construction, erosion control, home furnishings, nonwovens, and other industries. The company has diverted over 12 billion pounds of waste materials from landfills during its 97-year history, and imports and exports materials with more than 25 countries.

For more information, please visit www.leighfibers.com or call 864-439-4111.



Upstate Manufacturer Banking on American-Made

September 10, 2010

Mauldin, SC - Aprons, Etc., a Mauldin-based manufacturer of promotional merchandise, apparel and display products, is banking on the value of American-made products. This week the company is introducing a new NO-TIE™ Apron that revolutionizes not only the product design but the manufacturing concept as well.

"The NO-TIE Apron is a redesign of the traditional promotional apron, but the idea that the product is made entirely in America is really attracting a lot of attention," says Scott Thackston, executive vice-president. In discussing the new product Thackston added, "We work to introduce innovative products to the market but we recognize the importance of supporting the domestic economy and providing the best value for our customers. We know how to manufacture in the US and still have a viable cost structure."

The all-new NO-TIE Apron features a patented design that improves both the fit and function of aprons in virtually any environment. Utilizing Velcro® closures in place of old-fashioned ties, the new design is safer and more comfortable to wear than traditional aprons. Aprons, Etc. President, Jeff Hoffman, said, "By redesigning the apron, we're actually reinventing the way aprons are worn and expanding the number of environments where an apron would be appropriate. We're also proud that we are doing it here in the US, rather than sending the work abroad."

NO-TIE Aprons from Aprons, Etc. use Velcro® on the neckstrap and waistband. This patented innovation makes the apron easily adjustable to a variety of heights and body styles. The new aprons (in poly-cotton twill or water-proof coated nylon) are available immediately through promotional products distributors and come in two sizes.

For over twenty-five years, Aprons, Etc. has been a leading manufacturing and importer of advertising specialty merchandise and corporate logo promotional products. Located in Mauldin, SC, Aprons, Etc.

is widely recognized for their aprons, smocks, vests, bandannas, disposable accessories, and fleece blankets. Additionally, two-and-a-half decades of research and development have produced new lines and new products: the Nightingale line of medical uniforms and scrubs; the Uncommon Threads line of restaurant, service, and wait staff apparel; and the Display Solutions line of event marketing displays and accessories. Aprons, Etc. is a member of the Advertising Specialty Institute (ASI), the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI), and the SEAMS Association.

For more information about NO-TIE Aprons, visit Aprons, Etc. online at: www.ApronsEtc.com/No-Tie

VELCRO® is a registered trademark of Velcro Industries B.V.



NO-TIE™
APRONS

re:Invent
*reinventing the modern apron
for business & industry*

New patented design uses Velcro® instead of old-fashion ties

Adjustable for perfect fit & styling

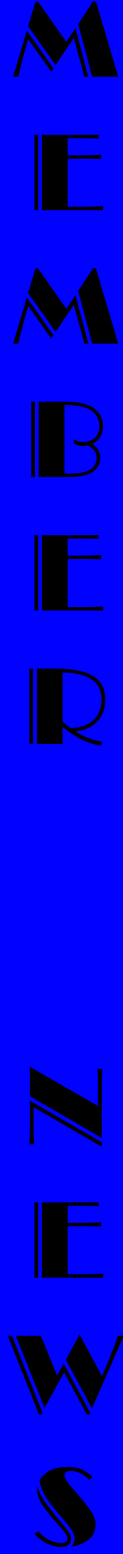
No loose, hanging ties prevents contamination & is safer than traditional aprons

re:Adjust

re:Size

Velcro® neck band allows easy height adjustment. No need to ever pull another old-fashioned apron over your head.

Available in poly-cotton twill & 70 denier nylon



Americans Sour on Trade

Majority Say Free-Trade Pacts Have Hurt U.S.; Wedge Issue in Some Races

October 2, 2010

The American public, already skeptical of free trade, is becoming increasingly hostile to it. Across the country, politicians are responding accordingly, and that is clouding prospects for congressional approval of pending free-trade pacts with South Korea and Colombia. It is also prompting concern among U.S. businesses reliant on the rest of the world for growth.

In the latest Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll, more than half of those surveyed, 53%, said free-trade agreements have hurt the U.S. That is up from 46% three years ago and 32% in 1999.

Even Americans most likely to be winners from trade—upper-income, well-educated professionals, whose jobs are less likely to go overseas and whose industries are often buoyed by demand from international markets—are increasingly skeptical.

"The important change is that very well-educated and upper-income people compared to five to 10 years ago have shifted their opinion and are now expressing significant concern about the notion of ...free trade," said Bill McInturff, a Republican pollster who helps conduct the Journal survey. Among those earning \$75,000 or more, 50% now say free-trade pacts have hurt the U.S., up from 24% who said the same in 1999.

Worries about side effects of trade and outsourcing seem one of the few issues on which Americans of different classes, occupations and political persuasions agree. The vote in the House last week to arm the administration with more levers to pressure China to let its currency rise, and thus restrain its export machine, was bipartisan: 249 Democrats and 99 Republicans voted for it.

While the rhetoric may be heated by approaching congressional elections, the sentiment isn't likely to disappear after November. "We are entering a very dangerous period in which we could actually slip backwards and see the undoing of some of the progress that has been made in recent decades toward a more open world economy," said William Galston, a former adviser to President Bill Clinton now at the liberal-leaning Brookings Institution think tank in Washington.

The rising hostility seems a delayed reaction to a slow economic recovery and high unemployment. To many, China has replaced Wall Street as the villain du jour. Opposition to trade is fueled by reports that many U.S. multinational companies, sitting on huge stockpiles of cash, are reluctant to invest in the U.S. and are looking overseas, and by the fact that China has pulled out of the global slump much faster than the U.S.

John Wallis, 50 years old, blames imports for the 2001 death of his 12-employee business that made small electronic prototypes for the telecommunications industry and the subsequent loss of his Chicago-area home. "Trade is fine and dandy in a scenario where everybody wins," Mr. Wallis said. But the U.S. isn't winning, he said. Mr. Wallis now works in programming and design for an international manufacturer in Rhode Island, but doubts he'll ever be able to repay debts from his old business. "Financially we've never recovered," he said.

One beneficiary of trade has been Karen Scott, 33, who has a master's degree in global marketing and advertising. Though now home with her three children, she worked in sales for a multinational health and pharmaceutical company and plans to return. Yet Ms. Scott said she understood why there was so much angst. "I think it becomes more prevalent at this time when the economy is doing so poorly," she said. "There are U.S. citizens that are out of work."

In the recent Journal poll, 83% of blue-collar workers agreed that outsourcing of manufacturing to foreign countries with lower wages was a reason the U.S. economy was struggling and more people weren't being hired; no other factor was so often cited for current economic ills. Among professionals and managers, the sentiment was even stronger: 95% of them blamed outsourcing.

Generally, businesses and economists argue that free-trade pacts help America. "When we knock down barriers in those markets, we create jobs here," said Myron Brilliant, senior vice president for international affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "We've got to trade to create jobs in our country."

Tramco, Inc., a Wichita, Kansas conveyor manufacturer, worries about the public attitudes against trade. Much of the firm's growth strategy is tied to international markets, said Chief Executive Leon Trammell. Ten years ago, Tramco opened a factory in Hull, England, to ship goods tariff-free to Europe. The plant now employs 40 of its 140 employees. "If we had a trade agreement with France and I could ship from here same as I could ship from Hull, England, I'd be shipping from here," Mr. Trammell said.

While some candidates are successfully making such arguments in this fall's campaign, it is an uphill climb. In northern Illinois, Democratic Rep. Debbie Halvorson is running ads slamming her opponent, Adam Kinzinger, for backing trade pacts that "ship our jobs overseas."

"China is cheating," she said in an interview. "We need to send a message that they need to play by the rules."

Mr. Kinzinger counters that 95% of all consumers are outside the U.S. He said the state's top manufacturers "say that in order to be successful and to hire people in Illinois to manufacture and put our stuff together, we've got to have trade."



Americans Sour on Trade Cont.

In the U.S. Senate race in California, Republican Carly Fiorina, former chief executive of Hewlett-Packard Co., is accused by her opponent, Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer, of having "laid off 30,000 workers, shipped their jobs to China, India, Malaysia." Ms. Fiorina's spokeswoman fires back: "Barbara Boxer's out-of touch, job-killing policies of outrageous taxes and impossible regulations have pushed jobs in this country elsewhere."

Some Republicans are reasserting their commitment to trade. The Republican candidate for U.S. Senate in Ohio, former U.S. Trade Representative Rob Portman, is leading in the polls. Others are quiet. The House Republicans' recent "Pledge to America" doesn't mention free trade. And of eight tea party Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate, only two mention support for free trade on their websites. In the Journal poll, 61% of those who identify themselves as tea-party supporters say trade agreements have hurt the U.S.

With the Democrats' union constituencies skeptical of free trade, and the public so hostile, the Obama administration hasn't made fostering free trade or changing Americans minds about it as high a priority as President Bill Clinton did.

Administration officials counter that they successfully resisted most protectionist pressures during the recession, and note the president's emphasis on the need to boost U.S. exports and his support for breaking the gridlock holding up approval of a U.S.-South Korea free trade agreement. U.S. and Korean officials held informal talks last month, but there appears little progress toward changing the provisions of the pact affecting U.S. beef and auto producers—a major stumbling block to congressional approval.

The White House has done little lately to advance pending trade pacts with Colombia or Panama. Nor does there appear to be any progress in settling a dispute with Mexico, which imposed tariffs on the U.S. after the administration signed a measure favored by Democrats canceling a pilot program that allowed Mexican trucks to carry cargo on U.S. roads.

White House spokeswoman Jennifer Psaki said the White House's goal remains to resolve outstanding issues with South Korea before the Group of 20 summit in Seoul in November. "The President supports free and fair trade agreements that include strong labor and environmental protections," she said.

The Wall Street Journal

By Sara Murray & Douglas Belkin; Louise Radnofsky & Jim Carlton contributed to this article
http://online.wsj.com/article_email/SB10001424052748703466104575529753735783116-IMyQjAxMTAwMDAwMzEwNDMyWj.html#printMode



OUR MISSION

The mission of the SEAMS Association is to **support the resurging US sewn products industry** through **membership networking and collaboration**; by **offering benefits packages** that help control overhead expenses; through **access to educational programs** to help improve the quality and productivity of the US sewn products industry collectively, and of our member firms individually; and by **keeping our members informed** about legislation in Washington, DC that impacts our industry.

The **SEAMS Association is a not-for-profit organization** comprised of manufacturing and contract manufacturing companies in the US sewn products industry. SEAMS supplier member companies provide valuable products and services to the apparel and sewn products industry. Membership in the SEAMS Association is one way to enhance your company's continued growth and success. The US sewn products industry faces many challenges and one of the best ways to promote the industry's interests is to join forces with business colleagues in the SEAMS Association.

SEAMS is dedicated to promoting a business climate which will enhance and support the retention of sound economic growth throughout the entire United States. The Association is constantly working to develop solutions to many of the challenges facing the sewn products industry. Participation as a member of SEAMS guarantees that the voice of the sewn products industry will be heard and responded to.

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Please feel free to contact any of the officers and directors to share your ideas.

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