

ManuFACTS

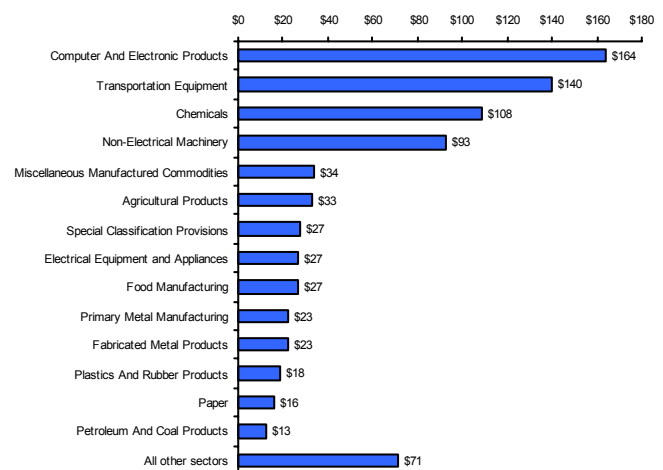
Free and Fair Trade is Essential to Keep Our Economy Strong and Growing in 2006

- While the U.S. market is the most open in the world, U.S. companies continue to face tariffs and other barriers in other countries.
- In order for U.S. manufacturers to compete globally, we must bring down foreign barriers to our exports. To help level the international playing field it is essential that Congress pass bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) and ensure the successful conclusion of the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations.
- Most American workers have a very large stake in issues affecting trade. In fact, one out of every five manufacturing jobs is tied to exports.
- Millions of Americans work for companies that are not directly involved in trade but supply companies who are global market leaders.
- Companies that export create jobs nearly 20 percent faster than non-exporting companies and pay, on average, 15 percent more than other companies.
- It is a plain fact that 98 percent of the world's population live outside the United States; therefore, we need to redouble our efforts to increase our competitiveness in the global marketplace.

HOW CONGRESS CAN HELP:

- Support and pass new FTAs that open new markets, eliminate tariffs, protect intellectual property and create two-way trade for U.S. manufacturers.
- In 2007, FTAs such as the upcoming agreement with Panama will come before Congress. 90% of the U.S. manufactured goods trade deficit comes from countries with which we have no free trade agreements.
- Support and pass legislation that would provide WTO-compliant remedies to counter subsidies from non-market countries like China.

Manufactured Goods Lead Top U.S. Export Sectors in 2004 \$ billions



Bottom Line:

The NAM will continue to work with Congress this year to cut domestically imposed costs, seek to ensure market-driven exchange rate policies with our major trading partners, reduce the U.S. trade imbalance and strengthen the domestic economy. To that end, the NAM and its members will work to:

- **Opening foreign markets to U.S. Exports through free and fair trade agreements;**
- **Conclusion of the WTO's Doha Round of trade negotiation, which will help allow American manufacturers to increase international sales;**
- **A end to government intervention in currency markets;**
- **Streamlined trade rules to reduce the barriers to trade;**
- **More effective enforcement of trade and compliance rules to ensure our foreign competitors play by the rules**

U.S. Manufacturing Employment and Wages	
<i>Manufacturing Employees, October 2005</i>	<i>14,257,000</i>
<i>Manufacturing Employees, 2000</i>	<i>17,181,000</i>
<i>Manufacturing establishments, 2004</i>	<i>378,142</i>
<i>Manufacturing average annual pay, 2004</i>	<i>\$45,916</i>
<i>National average annual pay for all industries, 2004</i>	<i>\$39,134</i>

NAM Resources

For more information on the NAM's Trade Policy, please go to: www.nam.org/trade.

For more information on specific issues, please contact:

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