

July 28, 2009

## Will There be Justice from Unfair Trade?

U.S. tire workers in consumer tire-producing operations are at the losing end of a surge in tire imports from China. This surge has a direct link to the 25 percent decline in U.S. production and the resulting 7,000 workers who are being impacted by factory shutdowns and slated shutdowns. These are family and community supportive jobs that are disappearing because China isn't playing by the rules, and our union is taking action through a trade case to help right this wrong.

It's time to make a break from the failed trade policy of the past.

This case has far-reaching implications for many USW industries beyond just tire. If we lose, we can expect more industries to be harmed. If we win, we start on a course of trade law enforcement where U.S. workers get a fair shot.

### China's Unfair Trading Practices are Not New

The artificial level of imports has a direct connection to China's distorted, non-market economy and manipulation of its currency. There are numerous cases in the U.S. where China was found to disregard our trade rules and dump or subsidize exports to our market. The impact has been loss of jobs and wages for workers in many industries – just like what is happening in the tire industry now.

### The USW Takes Action

Section 421 of the Trade Act of 1974 gives us recourse when a flood of imports from China disrupts our markets and causes harm to U.S. workers and industries. China agreed to these rules when they became a member of the World Trade Organization.

Recently, the International Trade Commission affirmed our case, ruling that China violated its WTO commitments on surges related to the U.S. tire market. Now the case moves on to the President for a final determination on whether or not relief will be granted.

### The President Now Holds the Key

In four previous 421 cases where the ITC found injury, the President at the time – George W. Bush – refused to provide relief. Currently, President Obama is feeling heavy pressure from the job-exporting crowd to keep the status quo. The President has until September 17 to make his decision. It is very important that he hears from us on this case and understands how important this issue is. **This is not just about the tire industry; it's about the future of American manufacturing!**

**Please Watch for an Action Call Later this Week**