

Made in the USA



George C. Mignosi

Tazreen Fashions, the owner of the Bangladeshi garment factory where 112 workers perished in a horrific fire in November, has produced clothing for Wal-Mart, Disney and other American companies. Sound familiar? In 1911, the New York Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire took the lives of 146 workers. It set the stage for a new era of worker rights and workplace safety. However, things like a safe workplace and paying a decent wage don't fit the Wal-Mart and Disney business models, so they found a place that does—in Bangladesh, paying 18 cents an hour to work in a fire trap.

Consumers may cite two reasons for continuing to purchase non-U.S.-

made products: convenience and lack of U.S. products to buy. That's where we come in. There are plenty of American companies (some of which are listed below), and online ordering with USPS shipping is more convenient than fighting traffic and burning gasoline to get to the store.

All-American Clothing Company (allamericanclothing.com)

Our mission is to support USA families and jobs by producing high-quality clothing in the USA at an affordable price. By keeping our production in the USA we provide jobs and a tax base that supports our communities.

We care about our country and the people in it; if we were only in it for money, we would move our production overseas. We will NOT trade USA jobs for foreign profits...

—BJ Nickol, Co-Founder

Union House (unionlabel.com)

Who they are:

Union House is a Minnesota-based seller of apparel and products made in the USA, with much of it union made. All of our clothing and other products are American made from U.S. manufacturers. Our line includes products from Round House, Union Line and King Louie, Carhartt, Union House men's underwear, briefs and boxer briefs, also Lodge Cookware, Nordic Ware, Okabashi, New Balance Shoes and American-made toys. We are a union-organized shop that pays union wages and benefits; we pay 100 percent of a union health care plan for all our full-time employees. Our building is 100 percent union built. When buying from Union House, you are buying from a

fair living wage and benefit employer that invests in America. Look for the Union Label. Look for the 'Made in USA' label. All items made with pride in the USA.

The Union Boot Pro (theunionbootpro.com)

The strength of our economy relies on each of us to buy American-made products when we can. If we simply make the effort, one purchase at a time, and look for a 'Made in USA' label, we can start to make a difference. In turn, our effort will support the livelihoods of millions of hardworking Americans, including the union families that help build, service and maintain (pretty much) everything that keeps our great country on the move day-to-day.

AFL-CIO Code: AcNa7xD. This is an exclusive lifetime discount worth 27 percent off any American-made, union-made safety work boot available at TheUnionBootPro. TheUnionBootPro features Thorogood, WorkOne and HellFire brands.

Our Conservation Partnership—To help build the Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA) and support its efforts to help better conserve our nation's natural resources, TheUnionBootPro will make a donation to the USA for every pair of boots sold using this unique AFL-CIO discount code. The USA will recruit and engage tens of thousands of union sportsmen and women, adding strength and influence to its efforts to guarantee access for hunters and anglers, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, and increase funding for conservation. The USA, a coalition of hunting, fishing and conservation organizations, and 20 affiliated AFL-CIO labor union partners have unified to provide more than 3.2 million union workers across the U.S. and Canada who hunt, fish and recreate in the outdoors their own dues-based, union-dedicated sporting club. TheUnionBootPro recognizes the importance of conserving our nation's natural habitats for future generations. Your support of the USA will go a long way to help better promote, preserve and protect our country's great outdoors!

—President, TheBootPro LLC

Belevation Maternity Support (belevation.com)

Belevation Maternity Support is a line of pregnancy undergarments, made in the USA and designed to provide superior comfort and support for expectant moms. Offered in a belly band, support brief, boyshort and prenatal yoga pant. For more details, see belevation.com.

Have you had a positive experience buying from an American Company that ships? Let me know about it. Write to me at: NALC Vice President George Mignosi, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144.