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AFL CIO

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Welcome to the Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO Home Page!

Who We Are

The Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, was founded in 1909 to promote the products and services produced in America by union members - especially those products and services identified by a union label, shop or store card or service button. The department is supported by per capita payments from many AFL-CIO unions.

Look for the Union Label!

Smart Shoppers look for the union label - not only because they know the label means quality goods and services, but because by shopping they are helping promote justice on the job. The union label shows that labor and management have signed a binding contract, with each side guaranteeing their best - the best work, their best compensation, their best benefits. It's a "win-win" arrangement for everyone - labor, management, consumers and the community, where the economy benefits from the paychecks and taxes of well-paid workers.

Lookin' Good

The union label on a product, the "union shop" or "union store" placard in a place of business, the union button worn by a service or construction worker - all signify quality goods and services. Moreover, these emblems demonstrate that the employees who make the product or provide the service are skilled workers who are treated fairly and decently by their employers.

These symbols of quality and fair play are found everywhere, from washing machines to baked goods, from shoes to skyscrapers, from clothing to barber shops. They are evidence of quality goods and services produced by proud American workers.



Another important function of the Department is to help unions conduct national boycotts that have been endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council. The Department maintains and publishes the "Don't Buy" list of companies being boycotted and the products and services involved.

Our Label Letter publication is one of the most visible means we use to publicize boycott updates. Label Letter also features special interest stories, hot issues, our Do Buy section, and other information of interest. National and international unions and local union reproduce many of the sections and articles, spreading the Union Label message to hundreds of thousands of union members and their families.

From its offices at AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C., the Department carries out its programs through a nationwide network of chartered union label councils and committees, the national and international affiliates of the AFL-CIO, the state federations of labor and city central bodies.

One of the most widely known activities of the Department is the annual AFL-CIO Union Industries Show. Held in a different city each year, the show is a cooperative effort of unions and the companies with which they have contracts. It is a colorful, exciting and educational exhibition of union-made, American-made products and services. Free to the public, the event draws tremendous crowds.

You are visitor 1

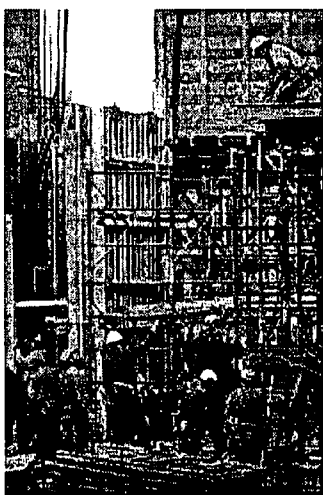
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AFL-CIO Union Industries
Show**



Welcome to The Center to Protect Workers' Rights



About CPWR

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Email CPWR

Sign up for
CPWR mail list

(postal service)

Last update
June 21, 1999

The Center to Protect Workers' Rights (CPWR) focuses on safety and health in construction and related economics issues.

CPWR is the research and development arm of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO.