

# **American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition**

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### **AMTAC To Oppose Flawed Korean FTA**

### **Textile Industry Concerns Presumably Not Addressed in Renegotiation**

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December 3, 2010

WASHINGTON, DC -- Based on news reports that the United States and South Korea have reached a deal which only modifies the automotive provisions of the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS), the American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition (AMTAC) announced that it would be forced to oppose the KORUS. If these reports are accurate, that means that other key and extremely flawed aspects of the KORUS were not addressed.

Specifically, with respect to textiles, AMTAC and other industry trade associations had asked USTR to fix various non-reciprocal tariff phase-outs, close rule of origin loopholes, and strengthen Customs enforcement language.

"AMTAC will obviously study the final text, but, if the flaws that industry identified in the agreement were not fixed, then this deal could offshore tens of thousands of additional U.S. manufacturing jobs," said AMTAC Executive Director Auggie Tantillo.

"On the very day that government reports indicate that unemployment levels are moving back towards double digits, this is a devastating response to the needs of U.S. workers and U.S. companies. If not fixed, this deal will exacerbate U.S. unemployment at a time when the U.S. government should be looking to create and preserve U.S. jobs at home." Tantillo added.

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