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## Made in America Panel Celebrates Small Business Week and Advocates More Support for U.S. Entrepreneurs Crushed by Federal Regulations

Neal Asbury began his nationally syndicated "Neal Asbury's Made in America" show on Radio America by celebrating National Small Business Week and paying homage to the bold entrepreneurs who continue to open new enterprises despite economic uncertainties and crushing federal regulations that erode job creation.

Joining the show as a return guest was John Negroponete, who rose to become America's Ambassador to the United Nations. He first joined the U.S. diplomatic service in 1960 in Vietnam, rising to become the National Security Council (NSC)'s senior officer for Vietnam, reporting directly to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. He was Deputy National Security Advisor from 1987-89, reporting directly to Colin Powell. Later, he was U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, and was involved in helping to pass the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). He also served as Ambassador to the Philippines and Honduras. Negroponete noted that the most important lesson he learned as an Ambassador was how vital it was for the economy to promote U.S. products overseas.

"Since passing NAFTA our trade with Mexico has quadrupled. Mexico is now our second largest trading partner after Canada, and we export more than \$200 billion a year into Mexico; \$80 billion of which flows through Texas. This is more than our exports to China and Japan combined," said Negroponete.

Negroponete added that due to Mexico's close proximity to the U.S., it results in a free flow of products and manufacturing

components between the U.S. and Mexico, creating residual economic gains on both sides of the border, including jobs. Both Negroponete and Neal Asbury characterized NAFTA as the most important free trade agreement in America's history.

"With the signing of CAFTA – the Central American Free Trade Agreement, and with free trade agreements with Panama and Colombia, American companies have free access to trading partners from Canada down the Western U.S., through Mexico and into Central and Latin America. There are enormous opportunities for U.S. companies to export their products. Help is available through embassies, consulates and through the Commerce Department. You'll find an open door to help you export," concluded Negroponete.

The discussion between Neal Asbury and co-host Dr. Rich Roffman returned to the regulations imposed on business and their devastating impact on job creation.

"The Office of the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration estimates that the annual cost of federal regulations in the United States increased to more than \$1.75 trillion in 2008. The report noted that had every U.S. household paid an equal share of the federal regulatory burden, each would have owed \$15,586 in 2008. By comparison, the federal regulatory burden exceeds by 50 percent private spending on health care, which equaled \$10,500 per household in 2008," said Asbury.

Dr. Roffman pointed his finger at the EPA for the majority of costly regulations imposed on business.

"The coal industry is way over-regulated. We're already seeing the result of this in rising electricity prices. Electricity costs 49% more than it did a year ago. The cost per megawatt of electricity is going to go from \$16 to \$136 by 2015. That's going to put some electric plants out of business. The people passing these regulations are thugs," said Dr. Roffman. He gave as an example a mineral mine in Bristle Bay, Alaska that will be unable to hire some 100 employees because the EPA believes that the mine could cause damage to streams. Asbury concurred and quoted an EPA official who compared their approach to regulations to the practices of the Romans whose soldiers would go to a town somewhere, find the first five guys they saw, and they'd crucify them. The point made was that by making examples of certain businesses or industries, it would serve as a deterrent to ensure compliance.

Joining the show next was Bob Beauprez, editor-in-chief of A Line of Sight, a policy resource that covers issues affecting conservatives across America. Beauprez is a former Republican member of Congress from Colorado with successful careers as a dairy farmer, community banker, and real estate development. He has published his first book, publishes a public policy website, ALineofSight.com, and operates a buffalo breeding ranch in the Colorado mountains.



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# Neal Asbury's **MADE** IN AMERICA

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Commenting on Obamacare, Beauprez noted that even as Obamacare was being presented to Congress, 21 polls indicated that the majority of Americans did not want the program enacted.

"And now the approval ratings for Obamacare have gone down so far that the administration is spending \$20 million for a PR campaign to try and change public perceptions. But that's taxpayer money that could have been used for more important things," said Beauprez.

Beauprez predicted that while Obama seems to be leading in the polls now in some states that direction is likely to change in right-of-center states like Florida and Colorado when they get their conservative bearings back.

"People think that the big issue in the West is jobs. But it's energy. There's a war being waged on coal and oil that is driving up energy costs. This is going to become a big issue in November. It means that employers are filled with uncertainty about higher costs and aren't hiring. They are waiting for the other shoe to drop. But in this case, a whole closet of shoes will be falling," concluded Beauprez.

Joining the show as the last guest was Harry Moser, founder of the Reshoring Initiative, whose mission is to bring good, well-paying manufacturing jobs back to the United States by assisting companies to more accurately assess their total cost of offshoring, and shift collective thinking from 'offshoring is cheaper' to 'local reduces the total cost of ownership.'

Moser noted that his organization has already helped bring back 25,000 overseas

jobs to the U.S. and is on target to bring back 3 million more jobs.

"As a country, we need to do a better job educating U.S. manufacturers about the advantages of American sourcing. They will find that if they consider the total cost of ownership, in terms of quality, IP risks and access to reliable material sources, they will want to move back to the U.S.," said Moser.

He urged American consumers to start looking for products Made in America; and for retailers to start giving preference to American-made products.

Asbury, a leading exporter of U.S.-made products related that he is trying to purchase a business operating in China and bring it to America.

"It's not always about price in China. Chinese consumers want better-made products and they know they can find these when they are Made in America. They are also willing to pay a premium price for getting higher quality products," said Asbury. Once again, Asbury and Roffman introduced their "Cronyism Report," an ongoing look at how federal funding payouts are wasting taxpayer dollars.

Dr. Roffman returned to a discussion he had several weeks ago on the show about Fisker Automotive, which received \$529 million in taxpayer guaranteed loans to build battery-powered cars. But since they couldn't find the right manufacturing site, the cars are being built in Finland, depriving the U.S. of jobs.

Now word comes that Fisker has spent \$193 million of that money and that the

government can't seem to account for the remaining millions—and these funds might eventually go to offset costs of Obamacare! No jobs! No green cars! Meanwhile, Fisker is going broke and the taxpayer is footing for the bill for all of this. Another great investment by the administration!

The discussion turned to the ill-fated Facebook IPO offering, which Dr. Roffman characterized as a "comedy of errors."

"The inside folks made money; so did the underwriters. But the investors are the ones that lost money. This debacle could impact future IPOs by giving them a bad name," said Dr. Roffman, Neal Asbury predicted an even more dire outcome: companies will have fewer opportunities to launch their own IPOs, which usually represents the money entrepreneurs need to launch their companies.

"That means fewer jobs created and a whole new flood of regulations. Everybody loses," said Asbury.

**Each week Neal Asbury's Made in America provides Neal's insights into the week's top news stories and their impact on the worlds of entrepreneurship, small business ownership and the overall economy. Neal's analysis, together with co-host Dr. Richard Roffman, a veteran 30-year publisher with extensive domestic and international experience, takes a non-biased approach based on real life experience in business as an American manufacturer and exporter. Made in America airs nationally each Saturday from 7-8:00 PM on Radio America. Link to Made in America at <http://www.nealasburysmadeinamerica.com>.**



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