

SHOP WITH A CONSCIENCE GUIDE

BUILDING SOLUTIONS TO SWEATSHOPS: WHAT YOU CAN DO

+ ACT NOW

Sign up for urgent action alerts at www.laborrights.org

Visit www.laborrights.org/safety for steps you can take to support safe working conditions in Bangladesh

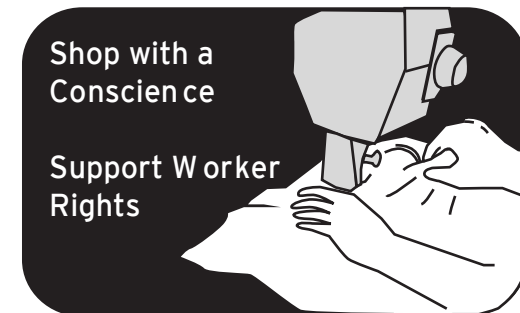
+ SHOP WITH A CONSCIENCE

Ask groups in your community to support unionized factories or worker owned-cooperatives with wholesale purchases

+ ORGANIZE

Get your city or state to join the Sweatfree Purchasing Consortium (www.buysweatfree.org) to ensure that taxpayer dollars are not spent on sweatshop products

Learn more at www.sweatfree.org



2013/2014

FEATURING PRODUCTS MADE BY WORKERS IN DEMOCRATIC UNIONS OR WORKER-OWNED COOPERATIVES IN GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS

INTERNATIONAL LABOR RIGHTS FORUM

1634 I ST NW #1001
WASHINGTON, DC 20006
USA
LABORRIGHTS@ILRF.ORG



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ALTA GRACIA is a factory in the Dominican Republic established after a long struggle with multinational corporations for union rights and sustainable jobs in Villa Alta Gracia. The workers are unionized and earn a living wage—more than three times the national minimum wage. Alta Gracia t-shirts and hoodies are available at universities around the US and custom-printed by Ethix Merch, which also wholesales a variety of other union-made merchandise such as headwear, bags, mugs, pens, stickers, and calendars.
www.ethixmerch.com

CERES, DESDE EL PIE, and PÜPORÉ are worker-owned cooperative factories in Argentina. When the economic crisis hit Argentina in 2001 and capital fled the country, it led to the closure of hundreds of businesses and masses of factory workers were left unemployed. Ceres, Desde el Pie, and Püporé are three of the cooperatives formed by workers in the aftermath. No longer relying on bosses, the workers themselves have become the owners. The factories make canvas and leather shoes, blouses, and buttoned shirts. Order from www.theworkingworld.org. Desde el Pie's leather shoes also available from www.traditionsfairtrade.com

DIGNIDAD Y JUSTICIA is a worker-owned ethical clothing manufacturer and wholesaler formed by the Comité Fronterizo de Obrer@s, a worker center in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico. The sewing shop was established by and for garment workers dismissed from their jobs after standing up for their rights in sweatshops producing for large U.S. apparel corporations. The women produce t-shirts, sweatshirts, and tote bags in organic and conventional cotton, and determine their own wage rates and terms of employment. Email cfomaquiladoras@prodigy.net.mx to place an order.

“MY DREAM IS FOR WORKERS IN FREE TRADE ZONE SWEATSHOPS AROUND THE WORLD TO ACHIEVE WHAT WE’VE WON HERE AT ALTA GRACIA.”
– Maritza Vargas

“THIS IS A STORY WE ARE WRITING TOGETHER, IN REAL TIME: THE STORY OF THE SOLIDARITY ECONOMY.”
– The Working World

“I NOW FEEL THAT I AM SOMEBODY. I CAN MAKE DECISIONS TOGETHER WITH OTHERS.”
– Alma Leticia Puente

DONNELLY/COLT is a two-person home business formed in 1975 that is committed to social justice and sells US union-made t-shirts, buttons, stickers, posters, postcards, and mugs. www.donnellycolt.com

MAGGIE’S ORGANICS is involved in every stage of production, from purchasing its own organic cotton and organic wool, to helping with the formation of worker-owned cooperatives in the US and Central America. The company sells a variety of casual apparel, including socks, leggings, shirts, dresses, and scarves.
www.maggiesorganics.com

THREAD OF JUSTICE / EL HILO DE LA JUSTICIA is part of Fuerza Unida, a non-profit founded by garment workers who lost their jobs in 1990 when a Levi’s plant in San Antonio, Texas, closed and left 1,150 workers without jobs and just severance pay. The sewing collective is an alternative model for social, economic and environmental justice that nurtures leadership development and business opportunities for women. They sell guayaberas and custom-made jeans. To order, contact 210.927.2294 or admin@lafuerzaunida.org.

US UNION-MADE: Browse the directories at: www.unionlabel.org and www.labor411.org

“RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE WHO WORK IN THE MILLS AND SEW OUR GARMENTS IS ONE OF THE UNIQUE THINGS ABOUT MAGGIE’S.”
– Bená Burda

“I’VE LEARNED THAT I HAVE MANY RIGHTS THAT CAN’T BE TAKEN AWAY FROM ME. I LEARNED TO DEFEND MYSELF AND TO HELP THE COMMUNITY.”
– Rebecca Herrera