



Leo W. Gerard
International President

November 14, 2016

President-Elect Donald J. Trump
725 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear President-Elect Trump:

On behalf of the more than 850,000 members of the United Steelworkers (USW), I am writing to congratulate you on your victory in last Tuesday's election. Millions of Americans – many of them our members – cast their votes on your behalf. As you recently noted, now is the time to heal and move our country forward.

During this campaign you spoke out vigorously for the need to bring jobs back home, to invest in domestic manufacturing, take a hard line with our trading partners and to reform our nation's failed trade policies. We share those goals. Indeed, for decades – during Republican and Democratic Administrations – we have been unflinching in our advocacy for policies to promote and support domestic manufacturing and the interests of average working people.

Americans work hard, play by the rules and deserve to have a government that will fight for their interests. Workers, their families and their communities have been penalized by proposals designed and implemented by economic elites. These deals have created an America where workers worry about where the next paycheck will come from, whether the bills can be paid and whether their children can have a brighter future.

America's manufacturing sector was once the path to middle class prosperity and has been the envy of the world. But, for too long, it has had to compete against unfair trade practices and flawed trade policies that have promoted outsourcing and offshoring. Many of our nation's policies need dramatic reform. There are tremendous opportunities to revitalize the domestic manufacturing sector that include overhauling the failed trade policies that have devastated industry and workers, and repairing and upgrading our nation's critical infrastructure systems.

There are policies and approaches where we have disagreed. That's what campaigns are for, and it is what makes our democracy so cherished. But, the voters have spoken, and we must unite to achieve our shared goals, while also staying true to our basic ideals. We are prepared to work with you and your Administration. As I am sure you know, we will disagree where we must. For the good of our people, it is time to put politics aside and tackle the work at hand.

Like you, our union and our members believe in the greatness of America.

Sincerely,

Leo W. Gerard
International President