

<b>Textile Enforcement and Security Act of 2010 Created.</b>	NCTO worked with Representatives Jones (R-NC) and Shuler (D-NC) to draft strong customs enforcement legislation. The legislation will establish stronger penalties for fraudulent activities and provide Customs and Border Protection with increased authority, resources and additional textile enforcement staff.
<b>Customs Enforcement Hearing – Textile Industry Focus</b>	As a result of NCTO member advocacy efforts during the 2009 Annual Meeting, Rep. Shuler (D-NC) who is Chairman of the Small Business Trade Subcommittee, held a hearing on Customs Enforcement. The hearing specifically examined fraudulent activity in textile and apparel imports into the U.S. through the CAFTA region. NCTO provided the subcommittee with three witnesses.
<b>NCTO Launches Credit and Export Financing Effort</b>	NCTO is leading the effort to bring more flexibility and liquidity for credit and export financing of textile products. Specifically, NCTO examined credit and financing needs for textile and apparel companies in the Western Hemisphere. NCTO worked with House and Senate Small Business Committees, the Small Business Administration, Ex-Im Bank, and USTR to identify viable solutions that will meet the credit and financing needs of textile manufacturers.
<b>Andean Trade Bill Passed</b>	NCTO worked with congressional allies to pass a one year extension of the Andean Trade Partnership Act, which extends duty free access for apparel products made from U.S. yarns and fabrics to Colombia, Peru and Ecuador.
<b>Bangladesh-Cambodia Duty Free Bill Blocked</b>	NCTO worked with African trade groups, the Textile Caucus and Congressional Black Caucus members to block consideration of the New Partnership for Development Act and overall preference reform. Committees on Capitol Hill are considering legislation that would give Bangladesh and Cambodia duty free access for apparel using Asian yarns and fabrics. An NCTO member company also provided testimony during a Ways and Means hearing.
<b>Berry Amendment Expansion Act Introduced</b>	NCTO worked with Congressman Larry Kissell to introduce a bill expanding the Berry “Buy American Textiles” amendment to the Transportation Security Administration. The “Kissell Amendment” passed the Congress on Jan. 28, 2009 but did not cover the entire agency. Kissell’s legislation expands coverage to all of DHS.
<b>Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)</b>	NCTO has been the leading voice of the industry in opposing the inclusion of Vietnam in the TPP talks. NCTO has testified before the ITC and USTR on TPP and is coordinating its efforts with other concerned industries and trade groups.
<b>Earned Export Credit Program (EECP)</b>	The NCTO Board approved the EECP program which is designed to revive the denim and twill industry in the U.S. NCTO has educated members of congress on the EECP to date and is working on revisions to the program.
<b>TextilePAC Successful Fundraising Year</b>	In 2009, NCTO members raised \$62,000 for the revitalized TextilePAC. The contributions allowed NCTO staff to reach out to new Congressional offices and build stronger relationships with elected officials, including the Blue Dog Coalition, the Trade Working Group, the Progressive Caucus and the Textile Caucus.
<b>New NCTO Government Affairs Website</b>	NCTO had created a new member advocacy tool – the NCTO Government Affairs website. The site allows NCTO members to access information regarding elected officials, NCTO policy positions, and has a letter writing function.
<b>Hill to the Mill “Strategic Focus”</b>	NCTO expanded participation in its innovative “Hill to the Mill” program with 16 NCTO member companies inviting seven congressmen and senators to tour their textile mills. HTM’s provide an opportunity to educate legislators regarding the importance of textile manufacturing.
<b>“Cap N Trade” Energy Task Force</b>	NCTO organized an energy task force in order to provide Members of Congress with information regarding the impact that Cap-n-Trade legislation will have on the textile industry. The task force developed a series of policy recommendations that were presented to Senate Sponsors Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and John Kerry (D-MA).
<b>TexNet – A new Advocacy Resource</b>	NCTO developed a grassroots action alert network called TexNet. TexNet allows both members and nonmembers of NCTO engage in education and advocacy on behalf of the industry.
<b>Organized Groups to Stop Card Check Bill</b>	NCTO coordinated opposition to the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) among Southeastern textiles states. The legislation is a top priority for unions and would eliminate secret balloting and would allow a federal arbitrator to decide contract issues.

