

# **USW.ORG/ELECTION2012**

## **OUR MEMBERS AND THE AUTO INDUSTRY RECOVERY**

Updated: Monday, September 17, 2012 Page 1 of 2

#### FAST FACTS ABOUT THE AUTO INDUSTRY RECOVERY

The auto industry recovery of 2009 called for GM and Chrysler to cut labor costs and overhaul their business models in exchange for emergency loans. While this was a tough and politically unpopular decision, President Obama not only saw it as a vital component to sustaining manufacturing in the Midwest, but as an investment in the American worker. An investment that is paying off. For the first time in years, GM and Chrysler are profitable, adding shifts and facilities across the country.

We've made great progress since 2009, but we can't afford to go back to the way it was by electing the candidate who, when asked how he would have handled the auto industry, said, "Let Detroit go bankrupt." Romney, Mitt. "Let Detroit Go Bankrupt." New York Times [Boston] 18 November 2008.

- The emergency loans saved more than 350,000 USW members jobs.
- 61% of voters support the government's action in saving the US auto industry.
- The emergency loans saved more than 1 million American jobs and \$96 billion in personal income.
- 233,000 jobs have been added in the auto industry since June 2009—the most growth in a decade.
- GM is once again the top-selling automaker in the world—posting its largest-ever annual profit in 2011.
- GM is investing \$2 billion in upgrading 17 of its plants.













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#### WHAT THIS MEAN FOR OUR MEMBERS

More than 350,000 of our 850,000 active members have jobs that depend on a healthy auto industry. "Letting Detroit go bankrupt" would've cut back automobile production creating less of a need for the work our members do.

Some of that work includes:

- Auto parts manufacturers and the companies that service and supply them
- Paper workers who make the paper used for auto-catalogs and shipping boxes
- Glass workers who manufacture windshields and windows
- Rubber workers who produce automobile tires
- Chemical workers who manufacture the brighteners for automobile paint

The companies our members work for form the tax base to pay for local services like schools, health care, police and fire departments. It is estimated that every one (1) manufacturing job supports five of these service jobs. In addition, those companies contribute to their communitites by sponsoring kids' programs, school programs and local charities.

The future of our members, their families and their communities, all across the country, is intertwined with the future of the auto industry and its supply chain. Get educated on the issue and support your local officials who support the American auto industry.

For more information about the USW and manufacturing, visit usw.org/manufacturing.

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