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October 2019

U.S. Fears Mass Boycott as Chinese Turn to Homegrown Brands

A wave of nationalism sweeping mainland China could be bad news for Western brands.

Read more [here](#).



Congress Faces Major Hurdles to Spending Deal

Senators broke a months-long stalemate over funding the government by starting work on a package of four spending bills, but major hurdles remain to avoid a shutdown in November.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Trade Envoy Meets with Lawmakers on Proposed USMCA Trade Agreement

U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer met with Democratic lawmakers to try to resolve their concerns about the U.S.-Mexico-Canada trade agreement.

Read more [here](#).



Manufacturing Production Fell in September for Sixth Time This Year

Manufacturing production declined 0.5 percent in

September, falling for the sixth time this year.

Read more [here](#).



Dan Brouillette To Replace Outgoing Energy Secretary Rick Perry

President Trump announced he plans to nominate Deputy Energy Secretary Dan Brouillette to replace outgoing Energy Secretary Rick Perry.

Read more [here](#).



The Aging of the Manufacturing Workforce: Challenges and Best Practices

The skills gaps and the need to attract and retain a skilled workforce continues to be the number one concern facing manufacturers in the U.S.

Read more [here](#).



The Devastating Consequences of Ignoring Workplace Ergonomics

Companies need to deploy a systematic process for identifying, analyzing and controlling workplace risk factors that lead to workplace injuries.

Read more [here](#).



Supreme Court to Consider Whether States' Climate Lawsuits Can Proceed

The Supreme Court will determine whether state cases involving climate-related public nuisance claims against oil companies can move forward.

Read more [here](#).



EIA: U.S. Crude Expands Its Global Footprint

Surging domestic oil production has allowed the U.S. to reduce its dependence on imported crude

and boost exports by 2.2 million barrels per day since January 2016.

Read more [here](#).



Technology Affects Workforce Training, Costs, Pay

Manufacturing technology is outpacing workers' knowledge and skill levels, so companies need to make certain workers are properly trained.

Read more [here](#).



Column: Soft Skills Remain in Short Supply

Companies need programs to develop deeper skills such as negotiation, critical thinking and emotional intelligence.

Read more [here](#).



Aluminum Cans Facing Off Against Plastic Bottles

Global bottled water giants are ramping up trials of easily recyclable aluminum cans to replace the plastic that pollutes the world's seas.

Read more [here](#).



Can an Apprenticeship Network Fill U.S. Skills Gap?

Collaborative apprenticeship programs involving multiple manufacturers and partners can attract more participants and local investment.

Read more [here](#).



How Biotechnology May Change Manufacturing

The field of biotechnology is expanding rapidly, as hundreds of startups work on startling innovations.

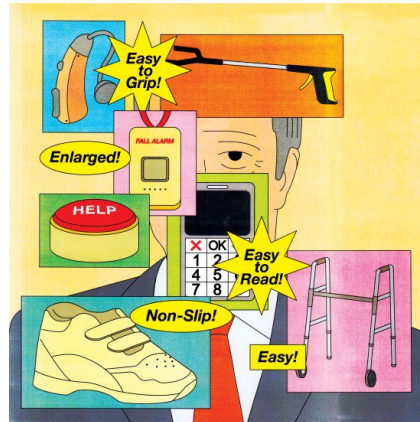
Read more [here](#).



“Old Age” Is Made Up and the Concept Is Hurting Everyone

Products designed for older people reinforce a bogus image of them as being passive and feeble.

Read more [here](#).



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Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce/Associated Industries of Arkansas
1200 W. Capitol Ave., Little Rock, AR 72201
P.O. Box 3645, Little Rock, AR 72203
501-372-2222 | arkansasstatechamber.com