



Washington, DC Office
1300 I Street NW
Suite 520 West
Washington, DC 20005-3314
T: 202.898.9064

 aem.org
 aem@aem.org
 Toll free: 866.236.0442

November 24, 2020

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.
President-elect of the United States

Dear Mr. President-elect,

Congratulations on your election as the 46th President of the United States.

Equipment manufacturers support one in eight manufacturing jobs in America, and the 2.8 million men and women of our industry make the equipment that build, power, and feed the world and positively impact the lives of every American every day.

We recognize the historic challenges facing our nation. The American people need an urgent, robust, and professional response to the growing public health and economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and we are encouraged by the steps your incoming administration has begun to outline. The health and safety of American workers is the top priority of our member companies. Each one of them has taken swift action to protect their employees and customers. Many of our member companies are helping the effort to fight the virus by repurposing their manufacturing facilities to produce products in high demand, including face masks and face shields.

Unprecedented and necessary public health measures are having significant economic consequences, especially on small and medium-sized equipment manufacturers and their employees. Even as you stay focused on public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19, we urge you to work in a bipartisan manner with Congress to protect workers, businesses, and the broader economy from the impact of this health crisis. We strongly support your call for Congress to pass another coronavirus relief bill during the lame duck session. The health and safety of our nation as well as our economic recovery must take precedent over politics.

Equipment manufacturers will do our part. We will share our ideas and our expertise with you and the 117th Congress to lead by example and set a productive and bipartisan tone for this next chapter in our nation's history. At the same time, we will continue to advocate for policies that promote trade and investment, revitalize rural America, train and retain the next generation of equipment manufacturing workers, and help make our tax code more competitive. It is our sincere hope that our elected leaders will worry less about the powerful political extremes and concern themselves solely with advancing policies that will lift all Americans up and leave no one behind.

You have unveiled an ambitious jobs and economic recovery plan for our nation. We urge you to focus on policies that will help rebuild and modernize our crumbling infrastructure as part of this plan, including the long-term authorization of the federal surface transportation program. Our industry has long advocated for an affirmative vision for our nation's infrastructure; one that focuses on climate resilience, bridges the digital divide, and provides sustainable funding for state and local governments. We ask you to make this a priority on day one of your administration.

As you noted during your campaign, "there is no greater economic engine in the world than the hard work and ingenuity of the American people." Equipment manufacturers stand ready to work with you to strengthen American manufacturing and innovation, mobilize American ingenuity to build a modern infrastructure and sustainable energy future, and mobilize American talent to build a 21st century workforce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Slater". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dennis Slater
President
Association of Equipment Manufacturers