



Save Quartz Jobs Launches to Ensure Access to Affordable Quartz

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By: Retrofit Magazine Editor

Recently, more than 1,000 U.S. fabricators, installers, distributors, and suppliers joined together to launch Save Quartz Jobs, a national coalition dedicated to protecting American jobs and ensuring continued access to affordable quartz surfaces — one of the most widely used materials in home construction and renovation.

The coalition was created in response to a Section 201 “safeguard” investigation by the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) resulting from a petition filed by highly successful multinational corporations Cambria Company, Dal-Tile, Guidoni, and Hyundai L&C. These companies are seeking unprecedented tariffs and quotas on quartz surface products imported into the United States from around the world. If imposed by the president, these restrictions would dramatically increase material costs for U.S. fabricators and installers, destabilize supply chains, and further strain an American housing market already facing serious affordability challenges. States experiencing rapid population growth — including Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Georgia, and Arizona — would be among the hardest hit.

“The U.S. quartz industry is an American success story built by small and family-owned American businesses,” said Rupesh Shah, co-chief executive officer of leading U.S. distributor M S International. “That success is now at risk because tariffs and global quotas would drive up costs overnight, threatening the viability of local businesses and jeopardizing more than 100,000 American jobs across all 50 states, most of them in manufacturing.”

Rich Katzmann, executive director of the Rockheads, a group of 120 fabricator producers of quartz surface products, said that the petition “does not represent the interests of the thousands of U.S. fabricators of quartz in the United States and their approximately 100,000 workers across the country. On the contrary, the relief sought by the Petitioner would be enormously harmful to domestic manufacturers and American jobs.”

The multinational corporations’ petition targets imports from every country in the world, even though U.S. production meets only a fraction of national demand. U.S. fabricators, distributors, installers, and importers across the country are united in opposing these restrictions because they would not protect the industry, they would destabilize it.

“Safeguard measures exist to help industries facing extraordinary harm — not to help successful global corporations increase their profit margins from serving the high-priced luxury end of the market,” said Jonathan Stoel, Partner at Hogan Lovells US LLP. “Imposing quotas and tariffs now would limit access to affordable materials at the worst possible time. At a moment when housing affordability is already a national crisis, this petition would crush the broader industry serving the middle class.”

Save Quartz Jobs brings together the U.S. small businesses that measure, cut, fabricate, and install quartz surfaces every day — the companies that keep construction moving, support local economies, and help make high-quality kitchens and bathrooms accessible to millions of American families.

For more information, visit www.savequartzjobs.com.