Dear High School Administrator/Teacher:

The Center for International Trade Development (CITD) of the South Central Region of the State of California formulated and disseminates The T-shirt that Travels the World™ high school module for integration of global trade concepts into the high schools. Why is this so important? We live in a globally connected world in which 95 percent of America’s consumers live outside our borders. Selling goods and services all over the world helps U.S. companies expand, grows our economy, and creates good jobs. In 2013, exports reached a record $2.3 trillion, and that supported over 11 million jobs in the U.S. Every $1 billion in additional exports supports approximately 5,000 U.S. jobs, and as such, trade and investment are critical to the strength of our economy. (U.S. Department of Commerce, 2014).

This module is meant to serve as the curriculum for integration into almost any context. Each high school has a unique set of needs and it is your decision to integrate the module into any course deemed appropriate. We have seen the module used in World History, US History, Math, Economics, Entrepreneurship and Virtual Enterprise programs. We have been successful gathering teacher support from those with a passion for international concepts, who invite something unique in their classroom. The module contains five (5) succinct one-hour-per-day lessons, intended to be stretched over one week of instruction. It is an interactive and fun approach for students to follow the worldly life of a t-shirt, integrating video, reading material, lecture, group exercises, and a guest speaker.

The CITD of the South Central Region (funded by the State Chancellor’s office under the “Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy” campaign) provides these key services: (1) Promoting export to businesses through low to no cost technical assistance to help create jobs; (2) Inform international business education and career pathways at the collegiate level; and (3) Expand global trade curriculum and career education in the high schools.

We invite you to be a part of this exciting program! Please do not hesitate to connect with me directly to learn more about the program and obtain the training and materials for integration into your high school – at no cost!

Sincerely yours,

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