

Feeding U.S. marketplace:

China's expanding export industries are fueled by Americans' insatiable appetite for cheap products made by Chinese workers exposed to a variety of workplace hazards.

Beijing

CHINA

Millions of workers are drawn from China's rural interior to the factories of Guangzhou, Foshan and Shenzhen.

TAIWAN

Guangzhou

Foshan

Shenzhen

A sampling of key growth areas in Chinese exports to the United States:

Computers:

This market has grown faster than any other sector

\$17.4 billion

'02 '03 '04 '05 '06

Computer parts:

One of the largest export markets

\$28.9 billion

'02 '03 '04 '05 '06

Apparel and household:

Market has more than doubled in size

\$14.6 billion

'02 '03 '04 '05 '06

Furniture:

Another strong growth sector

\$13.2 billion

'02 '03 '04 '05 '06

Toys:

\$22.2 billion

'02 '03 '04 '05 '06

Steady growth; impact of lead paint revelations not yet known

\$243.5 billion

\$287.8 billion

Exports to U.S. booming

In nine years, China's exports to the United States have more than quadrupled, vaulting from \$71.2 billion in 1998 to \$287.8 billion last year. Halfway through 2007, this year's exports already are valued at \$176.6 billion.

\$71.2 billion

'98

\$81.8 billion

'99

\$100 billion

'00

\$102.3 billion

'01

\$125.2 billion

'02

\$152.4 billion

'03

\$196.7 billion

'04

'05

'06