



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Your recent post on Wal-Mart documentaries

3 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Sun, Jan 15, 2006 at 5:36 PM

To: rob@sayanythingblog.com

Rob:

Hello. I hope you're well. I just wanted to drop you a line and introduce myself. I'm a blogger myself (I contribute to Confirm Them and Human Events' blogs among others), but for my day job – I do online public affairs for Wal-Mart, working with Mike Krempasky who runs Redstate.com.

Just wanted you to know that your post (<http://sayanythingblog.com/2005/11/11/why-wal-mart-works/>) taking notice of "Why Wal-Mart Works" was noticed here and at the corporate headquarters in Bentonville.

As you probably know, Washington-based union bosses have been running a campaign against Wal-Mart. And it's always a challenge when opponents organize to attack corporations. The companies always seem to have one arm tied behind their backs when they try to respond, so it's nice to see folks like you defending them when it's the right thing to do.

If you're interested, I'd like to drop you the occasional update with some newsworthy info about the company and an occasional nugget that that you won't hear about in the MSM. Let me know.

Sincerely,

Marshall

Marshall Manson
Edelman
202.326.1784
marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Sun, Jan 15, 2006 at 7:23 PM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

Absolutely. I probably won't post everything you send me (I tend to hold off unless I have something substantive to say on the subject), but I am definitely interested in being kept in the loop.

I am a Wal-Mart fan. We have one (with a new Supercenter being built) in my hometown. While some of their hiring practices have angered me (we just had two little girls raped here by illegals working on the new Supercenter) much of the nonsense leveled at them by unions is total nonsense. Wal-Mart represents good American innovation and capitalism. While they sometimes may cut a little too close to the bone, what they're are doing should be largely encouraged, not discouraged.

But I'm preaching to the choir here. Thanks for the email, and I look forward to your future communications.

-Rob

[Quoted text hidden]

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Tue, Jan 17, 2006 at 12:33 PM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Thanks, Rob. I'll make sure you're in the loop.

M

From: Rob Port [mailto:robport@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Rob Port

Sent: Sunday, January 15, 2006 8:23 PM

To: Manson, Marshall

Subject: Re: Your recent post on Wal-Mart documentaries

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Wal-Mart Update

1 message

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Jan 20, 2006 at 2:12 PM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob:

I thought I'd give you a quick Wal-Mart update here at the end of the week.

As you probably know, union-leaders have moved forward in a number of states with proposals to have the government mandate that Wal-Mart and other businesses provide health coverage.

But yesterday in Wisconsin, the union leaders waging the campaign suffered their first setback when their "health care" bill failed to even get out of a House committee.

<http://www.wkowitz.com/index.php/news/story/p/pkid/23101>

Also yesterday, George Will turned his powerful rhetorical pen on the subject, calling these proposals, "theft tarted up as compassion."

<http://www.townhall.com/opinion/columns/georgewill/2006/01/19/182959.html>

All across the country, newspaper editorial boards – no great friends of business – are ripping the bills.

Tacoma News Tribune, Today:

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/opinion/story/5470081p-4934719c.html>

Organized labor is down in Olympia peddling the latest cure for rising health care costs and the great number of uninsured. Unfortunately, it amounts to little more than snake oil. ... The proposed mandate is flawed in several ways, not the least of which is the idea that lawmakers should dictate how much any business should spend on an employee benefit. It's plain bad public policy for the state to attempt to micromanage the budgets of private companies... Health care costs and the alarming number of uninsured residents are subjects worthy of the Legislature's time. An effort to inflict a dubious cure on one company is not."

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Today:

http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/opinion/256357_walmarted.asp

"...the bills call for a troubling state incursion into the private sector, generate a whole new bureaucracy and may not produce the desired effects... The health care solution lies in a broader, national rethinking of

the way health care is delivered and funded, not more jerry-rigging of an increasingly outmoded employer-provision model." (Seattle Post-Intelligencer 1/20/06)

Rocky Mountain News, Yesterday:

http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/editorials/article/0,2777,DRMN_23964_4398028,00.html

"If Colorado follows Maryland's lead, look for Wal-Mart to slow local expansion plans, and maybe raise prices. Low-income consumers who save hundreds of dollars a year at Wal-Mart would hardly call that fair. Nor would the entry-level workers who'll find fewer opportunities for meaningful employment as the hiring windows at Wal-Mart close. And yet the union PR machines continue to bellow that organized labor is looking out for the little guy. Go figure."

(There are some excellent facts and figures in this one, too.)

Charleston Daily Mail, Wednesday:

<http://www.dailymail.com/news/Opinion/200601182/>

"There you have it. It's about a socialized medicine agenda and the AFL's inability to sell itself to Wal-Mart employees."

The Wall Street Journal's take is particularly interesting:

The Wall Street Journal, 1/16/06

(not available on-line)

HillaryCare Returns

Readers with long memories will recall that one of the reasons HillaryCare was defeated in 1994 was because of its unpopular employer mandate. Well, its diktat that all businesses provide health insurance is making a comeback, albeit at the state level and at first only for the largest companies. But all employers are on Big Labor's target list here.

[snip]

But no one should think this will be an isolated political event. The state AFL-CIO threw everything it had into the bill, including a vow to withdraw support from any lawmaker who didn't vote to override the veto. Democrats who dominate both houses of the Maryland legislature went along. The national AFL-CIO now plans to use the Maryland law as a model for legislation in other states. Union chief John Sweeney has announced a campaign to enact "Fair Share Health Care Legislation" in more than 30 states. Washington and New Hampshire will be early targets.

The details vary by state, but already it's clear the new tax would eventually hit companies a lot smaller

than Wal-Mart. In Rhode Island, proposed legislation takes aim at businesses with only 1,000 employees. In other states proposals would mandate payouts of 9% or more. Once the principle is established that employers must allocate a certain share of their payroll to health care, it becomes easier to gradually extend the mandate to all businesses.

Unions and Democrats argue that companies must be commanded to do this because employees without health insurance often turn up on Medicaid, which is busting state budgets. But rather than reform Medicaid to control its costs or stop its rampant fraud, the politicians find it easier to sock it to private business. One result will be that companies will create fewer new jobs, as in Old Europe.

As for Wal-Mart, it is hardly an ogre as an employer for 1.3 million Americans. It now offers an array of health plans to all full and part-time employees with monthly premiums as low as \$23 for an individual and \$65 for a family anywhere in the country (less in some areas). Employees can also choose to set up health savings accounts with Wal-Mart matching contributions up to \$1,000.

[snip]

One perverse aspect of the Maryland bill is that Wal-Mart won't be able to count any savings from negotiating lower prices with doctors and hospitals toward the 8% threshold. So the bill works against the oft-invoked liberal goal of reducing the nation's overall health-care costs.

[snip]

Maryland's politicians need to understand that policies punishing business have bad economic consequences. Let a more enlightened state benefit from Wal-Mart's prosperity.

What's really going on here is an attempt to pass the runaway burdens of the welfare state on to private American employers. As we're learning from Old Europe and General Motors, this is bad news for both business and workers in the long run. **The U.S. doesn't need a revival of HillaryCare on the installment plan.**

This will continue to be a major issue in the coming days and weeks, with similar bills being offered in more than 30 states. I'll continue to keep you updated going forward.

All the best,

Marshall

Marshall Manson

Edelman

p 202.326.1784

c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Want to go to the center of the universe?

3 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>Tue, Jan 24, 2006 at 3:29
PM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

Quick question.

Would you, if the opportunity arose, like to see Wal-Mart from the inside? As in the corporate headquarters in Bentonville, AR?

Unfortunately, we don't have any funds for travel -- but I think I might be able to get you access to the largest company in the world. Tours, briefings, the works. Everything that they would do for a reporter from the *New York Times*.

I've been there, and I can tell you it's staggering. Just consider this little factoid: every two weeks, the Wal-Mart payroll department direct deposits more than a billion dollars in wages. Yikes.

So - if something like that came up - would you be willing to make a trek to Bentonville and participate? I'd make sure to be there and act as a tour guide.

We're trying to get a very quick sense of how much interest there might be, so if you're interested, please let me know as soon as possible (ideally, by tomorrow morning).

Thanks

Marshall

Marshall Manson

Edelman

p 202.326.1784

c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>**Tue, Jan 24, 2006 at 3:28 PM**To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

I would love to go. It sounds fascinating. I do have limitations though. For one thing, it would depend on when. I work in a small business and it is hard for me to get away. It would also depend on travel fees. I am but a humble and lowly blogger without a lot of funds for field trips.

So yes, I'm interested, but my actual attendance would depend on more details.

-Rob

[Quoted text hidden]

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>**Tue, Jan 24, 2006 at 3:36 PM**To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Excellent. Thanks, Rob. That's precisely what we needed to know. I will send along more details as we pull them together. Right now, we're measuring feasibility.

M

From: Rob Port [<mailto:robport@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Rob Port**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2006 4:28 PM**To:** Manson, Marshall**Subject:** Re: Want to go to the center of the universe?

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

An early look at tomorrow's news...

1 message

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Wed, Jan 25, 2006 at 7:14 PM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Good evening.

I wanted to give you an early preview of a story that's going to be happening tomorrow.

On Thursday, Wal-Mart will announce that its new Evergreen Park, IL store received more than 25,000 applications for 325 positions – a majority of which are full-time. That's a 1.3% acceptance rate.

Consider this:

- Harvard University (undergraduate) accepts 11% of applicants.
http://www.princetonreview.com/college/research/profiles/admissions.asp?listing=1022984<ID=1&intbucketid=accepts_11
- The Navy Seals accept 5% of applicants.
www.NavySeals.com
- To qualify for MENSA, you must score in the top 2% on a standardized test.
<http://www.mensa.org/>
- You have a 3% chance of living to the age of 100.
<http://www.bumc.bu.edu/Dept/Content.aspx?DepartmentID=361&PageID=5900>

Evergreen Park (and the store itself) border Chicago. The new store is set to open on Friday morning.

More broadly, Wal-Mart will soon announce that it created 20,900 new jobs in the U.S. **during the month of January alone.**

Let me know if you have any questions.

Also, just a quick note on the "Fair Share" health care effort. The Indiana house killed their state's version of proposal on Monday. So much for all of these predictions that the Maryland law would become a national model...

All the best,
Marshall

P.S. – Sorry for going the mass e-mail route. It's a one-time solution to a soon-to-be solved problem.

Marshall Manson
Edelman
202.326.1784
marshall.manson@edelman.com



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Union hypocrisy knows no bounds

3 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Wed, Feb 1, 2006 at 2:19 PM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

"My hypocrisy knows no bounds." - Doc Holliday (Tombstone, 1993)

Judging from this article from the Detroit News, it seems that the unions spending their members' money on campaigns against Wal-Mart could say the same. Here's the link: <http://www.detroitnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060125/BIZ/601250336&SearchID=73233838395368>

Here's the key bit:

"In Washington, Baltimore, Atlanta and elsewhere in the country, union organizers are scouring shelters and recruiting homeless people to staff their picket lines, paying just above minimum wage and failing to provide health benefits.

[snip]

A demonstrator in Washington, Nicey Howards, said the temporary protesters earn \$8 an hour -- just a dollar above the legal minimum wage in Washington [note: this is less than the average pay for a full-time WMT associate] -- with no benefits. While she felt the job wasn't ideal [note: not ideal? mark that as the understatement of the year], Howards was glad she could earn a little money while looking for something better.

Each week, Howards said, she works 20 hours, the maximum time allowed by the carpenters' union, bringing home \$160.

The union organizers allow the hired protesters to take two-minute breaks, Howards said, but **dock their pay for the time off.**

Remember - this ain't a new practice either:

<http://www.lasvegasweekly.com/2005/09/08/aws1.html> (UFCW hires temps to protest for lower wages than

Wal-Mart pays. Oh, and it was 104 degrees outside)

http://www.streetsense.org/article_0805protest.jsp (Carpenters' Union in DC hiring homeless at community kitchens)

Have a good week.

Marshall

Marshall Manson

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marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Wed, Feb 1, 2006 at 2:51 PM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

I'll post on that. That Vegas article was actually posted on SA back in September:

<http://sayanythingblog.com/2005/09/14/prottesting-wal-mart-ii/>

Any new word on the trip to Arkansas?

[Quoted text hidden]

> marshall.manson@edelman.com <mailto:marshall.manson@edelman.com>

>

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Thu, Feb 2, 2006 at 10:06 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Rob,

Saw the post. Great one.

Thanks for picking up the ball.

M

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Wal-Mart CEO speaks out

1 message

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Thu, Feb 9, 2006 at 8:35 AM

To: robport@gmail.com

Good morning, Rob.

I wanted to make sure you saw Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott's op/ed from today's *Washington Post*. It's his reaction to Maryland's new "Fair Share" health care law.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/08/AR2006020801988.html>

Here are a couple of key bits:

"Though the General Assembly passed a bill that affects our company and our company alone, we will not flinch in our commitment to our customers, our associates and the communities we serve. Working families want us in Maryland, and we're staying in Maryland.

[snip]

"That's not to say that the bill state legislators passed wasn't bad public policy. It was. And we're not the only people who think that. Dozens of experts, academics, business leaders, government leaders and editorial pages from the District of Columbia to Washington state agree that this bill and similar ones popping up in other states aren't solutions."

Read the whole thing, though. There's a lot there.

And what about the Distribution Center that Wal-Mart was considering for Maryland's eastern shore? The Associated Press has the scoop:

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060209/NEWS01/602090301/1002>

"A decision as to whether or not to proceed will be made based on business needs and will not be related to politics," said Dan Fogleman, a spokesman for Wal-Mart Stores Inc."

The bottom line: despite their concerted effort, the anti-Wal-Mart campaign's attacks on the company aren't going

to distract Wal-Mart from doing what it does best: conducting business, creating jobs, serving customers, and helping communities.

As always, let me know if you have questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Marshall

Marshall Manson

Edelman

p 202.326.1784

c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

RE: Want to go to the center of the universe?

3 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Feb 10, 2006 at 10:25 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Rob,

I've got a bit more detail for you on the trip to Bentonville that I wrote you about a couple of weeks ago. The basics – including the dates – are contained in the Save the Date information that appears just below my signature.

In addition to participating in the meetings with CEO Lee Scott and other top executives, we will be able to offer you a behind-the-scenes tour or two, probably of the home office and / or a distribution center, and we're working on some other interesting spots.

I know there are still some details to be worked out, but at this point, now that there's a firm date, I wanted to see if you were interested in attending. If you are, and you think you might be able to make it, I will put you on the list to receive the formal invitation in another couple of weeks.

Let me know what you think.

Best,

Marshall



What: Wal-Mart is hosting its second annual media conference featuring discussions about the business with CEO Lee Scott and other senior Wal-Mart executives. This is also an opportunity to get up to speed on the latest consumer and industry trends, as well as see merchandise selected to appeal to broader Wal-Mart customer sets.

When: Tuesday, April 18 – Wednesday, April 19, 2006

Where: Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas

Who: This conference is specifically designed for journalists. Facilities for filing stories will be available on-site.

Contacts: For more information about the media conference, please contact Hadley Harris at 479-204-9333 or Kevin Thornton at kevin.thornton@wal-mart.com.

We will send a formal invitation with a conference agenda in the coming weeks. For more information about Wal-Mart, please visit www.walmartfacts.com.

From: Rob Port [mailto:robport@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Rob Port
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2006 4:28 PM
To: Manson, Marshall
Subject: Re: Want to go to the center of the universe?

Marshall,

I would love to go. It sounds fascinating. I do have limitations though. For one thing, it would depend on when. I work in a small business and it is hard for me to get away. It would also depend on travel fees. I am but a humble and lowly blogger without a lot of funds for field trips.

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-Rob

Manson, Marshall wrote:

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I've been there, and I can tell you it's staggering. Just consider this little factoid: every two weeks, the Wal-Mart

payroll department direct deposits more than a billion dollars in wages. Yikes.

So - if something like that came up - would you be willing to make a trek to Bentonville and participate? I'd make sure to be there and act as a tour guide.

We're trying to get a very quick sense of how much interest there might be, so if you're interested, please let me know as soon as possible (ideally, by tomorrow morning).

Thanks

Marshall

Marshall Manson

Edelman

p 202.326.1784

c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Tue, Feb 14, 2006 at 8:23 AM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

Had to do some checking, but I'm about 99% sure I can swing a trip down to Arkansas.

I assume you'll be passing along more details (like if we're supposed to stay in a specific hotel, etc.) later.

Thanks again for the invite.

-Rob

Manson, Marshall wrote:

>

> Rob,

>

[Quoted text hidden]

> kevin.thornton@wal-mart.com <mailto:kevin.thornton@wal-mart.com>.

>

> We will send a formal invitation with a conference agenda in the
> coming weeks. For more information about Wal-Mart, please visit
> www.walmartfacts.com <<http://www.walmartfacts.com/>>.

[Quoted text hidden]

> marshall.manson@edelman.com <mailto:marshall.manson@edelman.com>
>

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Tue, Feb 14, 2006 at 8:24 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Rob,
Great news! Quite right about the additional details. We're still nailing down some of that info. You will get a formal "official" invite within the next couple of weeks.

Thanks again for your interest.

M

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob Port [<mailto:robport@gmail.com>] On Behalf Of Rob Port

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

A WMT exclusive for bloggers

1 message

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Feb 17, 2006 at 11:31 AM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

A real quick note for Friday.

This morning, the friendly folks at *The New York Times* tried their best to lay a whack on Wal-Mart. Link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/02/17/business/17walmart.html?ei=5094&en=6faf297fa60aec04&hp=&ex=1140238800&adxnnl=1&partner=homepage&adxnnlx=1140195851-T0oKpnJSdLa0RbXB9dJ5Xw>

The unions are screeching pretty loudly about this – but read past the hype at the top of the article and get the actual quotes from Lee Scott. You'll see the CEO with the most employees in the country actually...TALKING with those associates. (!!)

Besides, you tell me if he's not right about GM.

Here's an internal note that Lee Scott sent around to Wal-Mart associates this morning:

Well, we had been looking for ways to promote Lee's Garage, and it looks like the New York Times has done that for us. The reporters take issue with my tone in some cases, but as you all know, with me, what you see is what you get. I will respectfully tell it like it is. I think the story ends on an important point, quoting my advice to an up-and-coming leader: "The first thing you can do is make sure you treat your people well, and understand that your associates are what will make you a success." I truly believe that and think you can't go wrong in this business if you live by that. Feel free to check out Lee's Garage on the WIRE and see what you think.)

(This is an internal communication. **We have no plans to give this to the press**, but we're sharing it with you and a few other bloggers. Feel free to post it if you'd like.)

There are a couple excerpts of Lee's comments displayed here:

<http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2006/02/17/business/17walmart.gif>

But if you'd like to read the whole story, there are full transcripts posted as pdfs on the same page as the article.

As always, let me know if you have any questions.

Have a great day.

Marshall

Marshall Manson

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c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Much News from Wal-Mart Land

5 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 10:36 AM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

Good morning. There's much news in Wal-Mart land today.

- On Friday, you received an exclusive response from Lee Scott to a New York Times article that had run that morning. Well, after posting Lee's remarks, our friends at the ArkFam blog (and a few others) got an e-mail from the NYT reporter who wrote the original story. ArkFam has the details here:

<http://arkansasfamilycoalition.blogspot.com/2006/02/wal-mart-vs-new-york-times.html>

- Yesterday, Wal-Mart and the Salvation Army announced the results of last year's Red Kettle campaign. Generous Wal-Mart customers and associates gave \$26 million. That's nearly 25% of the \$107 million raised. And the amount raised through Target stores? Zero. They banned red kettle collectors from their property. Here's the press release with all the details:

<http://sev.prnewswire.com/retail/20060221/DATU00621022006-1.html>

- You remember the so-called "Fair Share" bill in Maryland. When Wal-Mart critics pushed were pushing it, they told the public that it only targeted large corporations, and really, just Wal-Mart. Well, the Maryland legislature didn't waste any time getting to the bottom of the slippery slope. The sponsor of the bill has introduced new legislation that would apply similar anti-business provisions to virtually every employer in the state.

<http://washingtontimes.com/metro/20060219-101530-8793r.htm>

- Yesterday, Gizmodo got the word that Wal-Mart and Toshiba would be the first to offer a particular type of eco-friendly laptop. Gizmodo also reports that all computers sold in Wal-Mart stores will comply with the RoHS eco-friendly standard by this summer.

<http://www.gizmodo.com/gadgets/laptops/walmart-and-toshiba-get-ecofriendly-with-laptops-156175.php>

More details here:

<http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/060222/nyw059.html?.v=47>

Finally, I wanted to let you know that Working Families for Wal-Mart has relaunched its website (<http://www.forwalmart.com/>). The new site includes a blog right on the home page. There's no RSS yet, so check back often for interesting tidbits.

(BTW -- I hate to ask, but if the temptation arises, please resist the urge to cut and paste text from this. Others have fallen into that trap, and I'd be sick if someone ripped you because they noticed a couple of bloggers with nearly identical posts.)

As always, let me know if you have questions or suggestions.

All the best,

Marshall

Marshall Manson
Edelman
202.326.1784
marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 10:44 AM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

I've been busy of late (my dad has been in the hospital) so I missed posting on the exclusive you gave bloggers. I was very sorry to miss it.

You needn't worry about me copy and pasting from your emails. I enjoy the links and the information, but I write my own posts.

[Quoted text hidden]

> marshall.manson@edelman.com <mailto:marshall.manson@edelman.com>

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 10:53 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Thanks, Rob. Sorry to hear about your dad. I hope he's on the road to recovery.

Marshall Manson
Edelman
202.326.1784
marshall.manson@edelman.com

From: Rob Port on behalf of Rob Port
Sent: Wed 2/22/2006 11:44 AM
To: Manson, Marshall
Subject: Re: Much News from Wal-Mart Land

[Quoted text hidden]

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 11:40 AM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Yes, definitely. It was a routine procedure, so no worries.

Manson, Marshall wrote:

> Thanks, Rob. Sorry to hear about your dad. I hope he's on the road to
> recovery.

> Marshall Manson

> Edelman

> 202.326.1784

> marshall.manson@edelman.com <mailto:marshall.manson@edelman.com>

>

> -----

> *From:* Rob Port on behalf of Rob Port

[Quoted text hidden]

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Wed, Feb 22, 2006 at 11:48 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Glad to hear it.

Marshall Manson

Edelman

202.326.1784

marshall.manson@edelman.com

From: Rob Port on behalf of Rob Port

Sent: Wed 2/22/2006 12:40 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

NY Times: the French judge of journalism

1 message

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Thu, Feb 23, 2006 at 4:58 PM

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

Big news today. Lee Scott previewed a speech that he's going to give to the National Governors Association over the weekend.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20060223/ap_on_bi_ge/wal_mart_health_care

In short - WMT is seriously increasing its healthcare offering. More benefits for part-timers (does your company give healthcare to part time workers?), coverage for kids for 30 cents a day, etc. All the details are here, it's pretty exciting because with Wal-Mart's scale, when they buy this much healthcare - they change the market itself.

But just as important this evening --here's a fun little quiz: which one of these is not like the other? Hint: it's our old friend number 7.

"Wal-Mart Plans to Expand Worker Health-Care Coverage" - Wall Street Journal

<http://tinyurl.com/eco86>

(Subscription Only)

"Wal-Mart to Expand Health Coverage, Add Store Clinics" – Bloomberg

<http://tinyurl.com/fngzo>

"Wal-Mart to open more in-store health clinics" – Reuters

<http://tinyurl.com/lxzru>

"Wal-Mart moves again to improve health benefits " – AP

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20060223/ap_on_bi_ge/wal_mart_health_care

"Wal-Mart set to beef up health plans" – UPI

<http://www.upi.com/HealthBusiness/view.php?StoryID=20060223-023450-6631r>

"Wal-Mart to expand worker health plans " – MarketWatch

<http://tinyurl.com/kfbyh>

--->>"Wal-Mart to Loosen Health Insurance Limits" - Michael Barbaro, NY Times

<http://tinyurl.com/hc6vu>

I'll let you draw your own conclusions about that little outlier. Or, I'll just refer you to crazypolitics for a fantastic post on the issue.

<http://crazypolitics.blogspot.com/2006/02/scooping-ny-times.html>

All the best,

Marshall

Marshall Manson

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Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

Wal-Mart Employees In Pennsylvania

6 messages

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 12:19 AM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

Thought you might like this post:

http://sayanythingblog.com/2006/03/02/walmart_employees_not_more_likely_to_be_on_medicaid/

-Rob

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 7:02 AM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Thanks for the heads up, Rob.

That's an awesome post, and an angle on the story that hadn't even cross my mind.

[Quoted text hidden]

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 2:43 PM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Rob,

Thought you might be interested to know that your post was noticed (without any prompting from me) by the Wal-Mart government affairs team in PA. it set the whole team to buzzing and was forwarded around Harrisburg all morning. It really made a lot of folks' day. So, thanks again for the heads up and the insightful post.

Have a good weekend,

[Quoted text hidden]

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 8:32 PM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Well, I'm glad they appreciated it.

On a related note, your email makes me think of something. How sad is it that a business like Wal-Mart must hire a government affairs team to combat politicians and union lobbyists just so they can bring customers low prices and employ several million people across the country?

What a world we are living in...

[Quoted text hidden]

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 8:46 PM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

No doubt. No doubt.

On the positive side, however, it keeps me gainfully employed.

Have a great weekend.

M

Marshall Manson

Edelman

202.326.1784

marshall.manson@edelman.com

From: Rob Port on behalf of Rob Port

Sent: Fri 3/3/2006 9:32 PM

To: Manson, Marshall

Subject: Re: Wal-Mart Employees In Pennsylvania

[Quoted text hidden]

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Fri, Mar 3, 2006 at 9:46 PM

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

I gotta find work like that.

Have a nice weekend yourself.

[Quoted text hidden]

--

Rob Port



Rob Port <robport@gmail.com>

NY Times Story About Wal-Mart and Bloggers Planned for Tomorrow

3 messages

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>**Mon, Mar 6, 2006 at 4:23 PM**

To: robport@gmail.com

Rob,

As you've probably heard, the New York Times is writing a story about Wal-Mart's relationship with bloggers. The story will likely run tomorrow, and while we're not sure precisely what it's going to say, John McAdams over at Marquette Warrior has been blogging his part of the story (<http://mu-warrior.blogspot.com> -- just keep scrolling down). So have many others, and John has most of the links.

I'm excited about the story no matter how it comes out. We're very pro-blog here and if that means we're a little ahead of the curve, so much the better.

I'm looking forward to continuing to send little nuggets your way. And, as always, we want this to be a conversation. So your questions, suggestions and rants are always welcome and encouraged.

All the best.

Marshall

Marshall Manson

Edelman

p 202.326.1784

c 703.850.3014

marshall.manson@edelman.com

Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>**Mon, Mar 6, 2006 at 9:03 PM**

To: "Manson, Marshall" <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Marshall,

I'm not worried. We'll all probably take some heat over this, but big whoop. You guys didn't pay us anything. All you did was send an email with links to pertinent stories and a bit of commentary. I get the same sort of thing from all sorts of people. Other bloggers. Special interest groups. Heck, even the ACLU sends me crap.

I'll probably post something tomorrow when the /Times/ piece comes out, but I look forward to whatever future emails you care to send my way.

-Rob

[Quoted text hidden]

> marshall.manson@edelman.com <mailto:marshall.manson@edelman.com>

>

Manson, Marshall <Marshall.Manson@blueworldwide.com>

Mon, Mar 6, 2006 at 9:44 PM

To: Rob Port <rob@sayanythingblog.com>

Thanks for the kind words, Rob. They mean a lot.

And the story just went online. Here's the link:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/07/technology/07blog.html?hp&ex=1141707600&en=4ae93d6a6547651a&ei=5094&partner=homepage>

Have at it.

M

Marshall Manson

Edelman

202.326.1784

marshall.manson@edelman.com

From: Rob Port on behalf of Rob Port

Sent: Mon 3/6/2006 10:03 PM

To: Manson, Marshall

Subject: Re: NY Times Story About Wal-Mart and Bloggers Planned for Tomorrow

[Quoted text hidden]
