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## Ohio CEO: U.S. Sugar Program “Puts Us at a Competitive Disadvantage”

*Spangler Candy’s Kirk Vashaw Details How U.S. Sugar Program Hurts American Companies*

Excerpt:

- *“U.S. headquartered firm Spangler Candy says it will not move large volumes of its production back to the U.S. from Mexico until the U.S. government creates a domestic sugar regime that matches world prices.*
- *“The Farm bill was written into U.S. law as the Agricultural Act of 2014 last month. It included a five-year continuation of the existing sugar policy. ...*
- *“Kirk Vashaw, president and CEO of Spangler Candy, ... ‘Right now U.S. companies such as ours are at a disadvantage because we have to pay a much higher price for sugar and sugar is the main cost in our product.’ ...*
- *“‘What we’re hoping to do is grow our U.S. manufacturing base, but because there are no changes, we’re happy to just be able to hold on to our manufacturing base.’ ...*
- *“‘The [sugar] program is very complicated. We would be happy if they reformed just any one of the five or six pieces to it. But really in order for us to compete in a commodity business we have to have a level playing field,’ said the Spangler Candy chief.”*



*Third and fourth generation confectioners and employees, Spangler Candy Company, Bryan, OH*

Read the full article from *Confectionery News* [here](#).

**Only Congress can fix a program that hurts U.S. consumers, taxpayers, food manufacturers and their workers with simple reforms to U.S. sugar policy.**

Learn more about the need to reform U.S. sugar policy at [www.sugarreform.org](http://www.sugarreform.org).

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The Coalition for Sugar Reform is an alliance of consumers, food and beverage manufacturers, trade advocates, environmental groups, taxpayer watchdog organizations, responsible government advocates, think tanks and other interests. Our objective is to reform the federal government’s intrusive, inefficient, restrictive and outdated sugar program – a decades-old subsidy that has repeatedly failed to provide adequate supplies of sugar to the U.S. market.