

VICA Viewpoint: August 19, 2011

Do you think the world is headed for a double-dip recession?

Yes. We have 2 major problems: (1) most businesses are afraid to hire because of future economic uncertainties and (2) the public is beginning to think like they did in the 30's—pay down debt and don't buy anything using credit cards. Until we reduce corporate taxes (like Reagan did) to compete with low tax rates levied in rest of the free world (and thereby bring back a trillion corporate dollars to America), we're stuck.

David Fleming

*VICA Past Chair and Board of Governors Member; **Latham & Watkins, LLP***

For most consumers, the last recession never ended. President Obama's economic policies have failed miserably. Economic uncertainty, the threat of higher taxes and unprecedented federal government regulation have caused an unfriendly business climate. This, coupled with contagion in Europe, makes a double-dip recession all that much more likely.

Matt Klink

*VICA Board Member; President, **Cerrell Associates, Inc.***

Unfortunately I do think that the world is headed for a double-dip recession because other countries are significantly impacted by the performance of the U. S. and our short recovery did not seem to be based on anything of substance. I have yet to hear any reason why the U.S. should be recovering. We are not doing anything to recapture lost manufacturing, we have not developed a particular technological specialty or located any sought-after natural resources that are not available elsewhere in the world and we don't have people trained to do anything so unique that other countries would need to outsource to us.

Greg Lippe

*VICA Immediate Past Chair and Finance Vice Chair; President, **Gregory N. Lippe Accountancy Corp.***

There is always debate over the economists' official definition of a recession and the reality of the environment. Based on stagnant/low GDP growth, shrinking jobs numbers, and (high) flat unemployment...if sounds like a duck!

Will Marzullo

*Former VICA Board Member; Metro Regional Director—Dallas, **Manpower***

We've been in a recession since 2001...it will probably get worse.

Sepand Samzadeh

*VICA Vice Chair; Chief Executive Officer, **Valley Recycling Center***