

Geneva 26 July 2012

Members of the International Association of
Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM)
IAM Local 851

Email: oherrnstadt@iamaw.org

Solidarity Message of IndustriALL Global Union to the striking workers at Caterpillar, Joliet Illinois

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing to you to express support and solidarity of more than 50 million workers in some 140 countries affiliated to IndustriALL Global Union, in your struggle against Caterpillar Inc. We represent workers globally across supply chains in the energy, mining, manufacturing and related sectors including members of our affiliate, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM).

It is with deep outrage that we learned from your union, of the unjust and anti-union actions of Caterpillar in the Joliet plant in Illinois. Despite Caterpillar earning a record \$4.9 billion profit in 2011 and even better results projected for 2012, the company has insisted on a six year wage freeze, a pension freeze and sharp increases in health care coverage contributions.

We find the behaviour of Caterpillar unacceptable, IndustriALL Global Union fully supports your rejection of the six-year pact that Caterpillar offered. The deal lacked raises and increased health care costs for employees and undercut union seniority rules.

We are strongly urging Caterpillar to engage with the IAM for a fair and just resolution to this matter. Caterpillar must not forget that it is the skilled workers that have made the company one of the most profitable in 2011.

We have also written to all of the members of the global network of unions representing workers in Caterpillar and asked them to make representations to their local management about the situation you face in Illinois.

IndustriALL Global Union stands with the IAM in their demand for a fair and just resolution to this dispute.

In solidarity,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary