

Geneva, 5 February 2014

Sent to all medical institutions, possible purchasers of Ansell gloves

Ask Ansell Why their Gloves are Dirty

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industrialunion.org), which represents more than 50 million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in some 140 countries throughout the world, to kindly ask for your attention to the sourcing of medical gloves used in your institution. Australian multinational company Ansell produces a large proportion of the global market of medical gloves, condoms, and other medical devices and supplies. This company's conduct in Sri Lanka has shown complete contempt for human rights and international labour standards.

Intransigent Sri Lankan management of Ansell are engaged in full union-busting of the IndustriALL Global Union Sri Lankan affiliate Free Trade Zones & General Services Employees Union (FTZGSEU).

Ansell refuses to recognize the FTZGSEU, refuses to respect collective bargaining, forces workers to urinate at their work stations to maintain fast production and then blames and victimizes the union for ensuing employee unrest. The workforce is paid poverty wages and is further undermined by an increasing use of precarious contract and agency workers.

Almost all branch union office bearers have been summarily dismissed.

IndustriALL has already launched the "No to Dirty Ansell Gloves" campaign, lodged an OECD complaint, conducted online campaigning through LabourStart and the IndustriALL websites, and collected and sent financial support for the striking workers. These actions have followed the company's rejection of repeated requests for positive dialogue.

IndustriALL affiliated trade union FTZGSEU needs further international support in face of Ansell's aggressive anti-union behaviour.

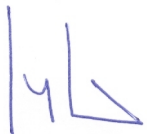
Find further information on the case here - <http://www.industrialunion.org/scab-made-medical-gloves-sicken-ansell-workers-in-sri-lanka>.

Please check if your institution is purchasing its medical gloves, condoms, or other medical supplies from Ansell, and if so write to Ansell Managing Director and CEO Magnus Nicolin – mrnicolin@ansell.com to at least demand an explanation for this mistreatment of workers in the supply chain. The scale of intransigence and punishment of long-standing workers for attempting to organise a trade union warrants your decision to change your provider.

The latest update is that 294 workers dismissed for supporting the union are taking their case for reinstatement to the Sri Lankan courts. However, the integrity of the process is as questionable as it is long, and they face expensive and well-connected lawyers representing the company.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent concern.

Sincerely yours,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary
IndustriALL Global Union