

Geneva, 12 November 2013

Mr. Hüseyin Fazlıođlu
Mr. Yařar Tat
Owners of Punto Deri
Kazlıçeřme Mah. Beřkardeřler 4. Sokak, No :4
Zeytinburnu Istanbul, Turkey

E-mail: info@puntogroup.com

IndustriALL Global Union Calls for Reinstatement of Workers at Punto Deri

Dear Sirs,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industrial-all-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers throughout the whole manufacturing supply chain, including the leather sector, in some 140 countries worldwide, to urge you to reinstate immediately all the dismissed workers, who are members of Deri-Is, at Punto Deri in Zeytinburnu. We are proud of having Deri-Is as an affiliated union of our global organization.

IndustriALL Global Union strongly condemns the unfair dismissal of union members from Deri-İř at Punto Deri located in Zeytinburnu, Istanbul. Workers were dismissed by your management because they were merely exercising their fundamental right to join Deri-İř, which is guaranteed by the Constitution of the country as well as international labour conventions ratified by the Turkish Government.

We know that workers at Punto Deri have joined Deri-Is over the last months to demand an improvement of working conditions since long working hours, low premiums, inability to fully use official holidays and non-payment of overtime work have been imposed on workers. Furthermore, although Deri-Is offered you to hold a dialogue to reach a peaceful and fair contractual relationship at the workplace, your management first tried to force union members to quit from Deri-Is by bringing a public notary to the factory. Then, at first two and afterwards followed by other seventeen union members were dismissed earlier this year. We also know that you have dismissed fourteen more workers, most of whom are union members. In addition, twenty-two workers have received notices that their employment contracts will be terminated at the end of this year.

We find this situation unacceptable. As a matter of fact, following audits conducted by one of your major clients, serious violations of fundamental labour rights have been found at Punto Deri. As a result, the brand has stopped its commercial relations with you until the situation is restored.

We urge you to reinstate the dismissed workers without any delay, and enter into a constructive dialogue with Deri-Is as a legitimate representative of the workers to rectify the situation.

You should know that IndustriALL Global Union will continue to support its affiliate Deri-Is with all its resources along with all its member organizations throughout the world until this problem is resolved peacefully and fairly. You should be aware that if the situation continues as today, we will use our influence over your customers where our global union has very strong presence.

I anticipate your quick response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a vertical line on the left, a horizontal line at the bottom, and a diagonal line on the right that connects to the top of the vertical line, forming a stylized 'J' or 'R' shape.

Jyrki Raina, General Secretary