

Chairman's Report by Steve Rop, Chairman

*Committee Members: Russ Bolthouse, Mike Carlson,
Nancy Fopma, John Graver, Marty Green, and Doug Lail*

December 2008

Plant Closing Update

Greg and myself have requested of the International Union that they meet with the corporation and get our plant listed as "Closed Plant" status so our members will be eligible for preferential hiring on Appendix A moves.

Currently the International has an agreement with management not to do any hiring at the MFD plants we are sending work to.

During the month of January there will be several sets of dies being moved out to other GM plants.

Also, the International Union is looking at making modifications to our current Appendix A and K language.

We were also informed not to look for any Paragraph 96 moves until sometime after the first of the year.

We will have a Self Help Transition Center open after the first of the year, and hopefully the web site will be on line by this time so as our members will be able to check on job opportunities at other plants.

Greg and I also went to Michigan Works with our personnel director and head of labor relations December 2. They have a lot to offer as far as retraining, resume writing, and available monies thru the state. This information will be in the Self Help Center for our members.

Epsilon Removal

Once again our maintenance members stepped up to the plate and performed an outstanding job. Faced with an unimaginable deadline for this work, they came in one week ahead of schedule. Thanks again for a job well done.

Layoffs

As most of you know, a little less than 100 members were laid off this week. Then the week of December 22, 23, -- pretty much everyone but TDO and a few loading crews on the dock will be off on short work week. We will still have around 400 members off the weeks of January 5 and 12.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and happy New Year. With everything that we have had thrown at us lately and the uncertainty of our future and that of General Motors, it might be hard to do.

But during your time off, enjoy being with your family and friends and whatever you do - be safe.

In solidarity,

Steve Rop, Shop Chair
Local 730, UAW