

DODGE TRUCK SPARK

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Can We Stand Another Four Years Of This? Why Should We?

The GM pattern contract is going to mean four more years of all the problems we have now. The same short breaks. The same attendance program. The same overwork and injury rate. The same drop in the value of our wages. No end to the rotten two tier system. Workers got nothing substantial back. The companies want all of this to be permanent.

1. NOTHING meaningful was done to improve the attendance program.

2. NOTHING was done to go back to paying us overtime pay after 8 hours.

We are already stressed beyond what any worker should endure. Can we stand another four years of this? Why should we?

FIAT Has A Fortress Balance Sheet

Sergio gave an interview in Italy. He said Fiat HAS ENOUGH MONEY SET ASIDE "to weather any storm."

Yet Sergio is on the news crying poor. He said the GM contract is too rich (?!!) for his taste. He wants the Chrysler contract to be even worse.

Forewarned Is Forearmed

Workers know that Sergio is used to playing "hard ball." When he was negotiating with unions in Italy and Canada, he always threatened to close plants. That is HIS pattern.

Contract Voting Checks and Balances

When Indiana UAW Local 23 overwhelmingly decided last year they were voting No, they planned ahead. During voting, each vote was recorded on videotape: "I, _____, voted no." The No vote carried and there was no funny business. In 2009, Ford workers kept a separate national tally on the internet to prove their own No vote.

Workers discussed ahead. They knew where each other stood. They decided it was their time.

Two-Tier Is Everyone's Problem

The longer we let Two-Tier go on, the worse it will be on everyone. Some older workers may feel it is not their problem. But it will be. The GM contract shows that the companies intend to keep Two-Tier forever. Soon as you blink your eyes, it will be 30 or 40 or 50 percent Two-Tier. And what will the younger workers think about the older ones' situation? They will say, "The old ones didn't stand up for us. Why should we help them?" And the union is broken in two.

Deeply divided families don't last long.

If first-tier workers want help in protecting their future, then they must help the second tier to come up, and all become one.

Hidden Agreement Not In Highlights

The GM pattern says that if workers pass this contract, then GM and the UAW can get together later and make changes to the pension plan! Workers who go out on retirement might not have what they think they have.

So-called "Profit Sharing" Trick

The GM deal claims to improve profit sharing. Not much! The fine print says "operating profit." FINANCIAL earnings - the biggest parts! - are LEFT OUT.

What About An Arbitrator?

Some timid souls will say we should be afraid of an arbitrator because workers would get less.

How do they know?

If an arbitrator was TRULY NEUTRAL and was FULLY INFORMED, why not award us those things taken away in 2009? The bailout is over.

Why wouldn't a TRULY NEUTRAL and FULLY INFORMED person restore break time, and stop 10 hour workdays, and give equal pay for equal work?

We might even get a raise. Chrysler labor costs are said to be \$49; Toyota's are \$55, Honda's, \$50.

Maybe the UAW lawyers at the top would not make sure that an arbitrator is fully informed. But the membership, IN MASS, could make sure.

Harassment Of Workers On PQX

Workers with PQXs must withstand harassment and pressure from management to give up their PQX codes. First they hurt you and then they want you to volunteer to be hurt more!

More than one union rep went along with this and told workers to give up their PQX - or else.

Leave management to its own dirty work! The union's job is organize our defense.

***** Please help this newsletter to get around. *****