



Declaration of Solidarity

IG Metall hereby declares its solidarity with the workers at the Siemens plant in North East, Maryland, USA, in their efforts to form a union representation at the plant.

IG Metall strongly condemns the various attempts of the Siemens management in the US to derail the workers and the United Steelworkers of America and to manipulate the opinion of the workers at the Siemens plant regarding the union election scheduled for September 6th, 2012, that has to be executed according to law.

IG Metall supports the right of the workers at the Siemens plant in North East and everywhere else in the US to organize themselves in a union and to make a free choice in the union election.

Siemens has recently signed an International Framework Agreement that stipulates in article 2.4 "the right of employees to form labour unions, join existing labour unions and conduct collective negotiations ... A constructive approach will be taken to co-operation with employees, employee representatives and unions ... If the level of protection granted to employees in a country in which Siemens operates fails essentially to reflect these principles, Siemens will nevertheless apply these higher standards to its employees..."

With its union busting activities Siemens has seriously violated these fundamental workers' rights and has even violated US labour law by threatening the workers of the plant in North East even before any negotiations with the union have started.

It can absolutely not be accepted that Siemens now does not follow its own agreement.

IG Metall will continue the efforts to take influence on the Siemens management in Germany to stop the manipulative activities of the management in the US so that the workers can freely and without coercion exercise their rights to get organized in a union of their choice.



Jürgen Kerner

IG Metall Executive Committee Member
Member of the Siemens Supervisory Board

Frankfurt, 31st of August 2012