



Global Delivery Briefing



*******STOP PRESS*******

**ITF/UNI ANNUAL GLOBAL DELIVERY MEETING TO BE HELD IN FRANKFURT,
23-24th MAY 2011.
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1. Strike action at TNT in Australia

Workers at TNT in Australia are taking part in a series of four-hour stoppages this week in an effort to secure “safe rates” and better standards for contract workers.

The country-wide strike on 28 January follows the failure of a last ditch attempt to negotiate with the company.

TWU national secretary, Tony Sheldon, said that until there were sensible changes in the company’s practices safety would suffer: “While the company continues to turn the thumbscrews in the name of their bottom line, the public and employees will suffer.”

He highlighted how last week, TNT management in South Australia required the largely casual staff to continue to work at a site potentially contaminated with asbestos, providing only flimsy paper masks to some. It was only when union representatives intervened that the workplace was evacuated. TNT management, he said, had also docked workers pay during the recent floods when they were unable to work.

The workers are demanding site rates to prevent managers from bringing in contract workers that undermine the rest of the workforce and a “safe rates committee” to ensure that contractors implement safety measures and pay the correct wages. They also want to secure fair wage increases and a company superannuation or pension contribution from the employer of 15 per cent. Sheldon said that TNT management’s claims that it could not afford to pay for the changes were baseless: “Of course TNT management will cry wolf but TNT Express is set to have profits increase 186 per cent by 2015.

“On top of that TNT are set to make a fortune out of the misfortune of the people of Queensland as demand grows because of the rebuilding effort.”

How you can show your solidarity:

- Send a letter of support to the Transport Workers Union of Australia via richard.priest@twu.com.au copying in Marshall Abrahams from Organising Globally at Abrahams_marshall@itg.org.uk
- Make your feelings known by [send a protest letter](#) to Bob Black, the Managing Director of TNT Australia
- Follow the TNT Workers’ campaign for fairness at work on [Twitter and Facebook](#)

2. TNT and unions agree deal

TNT and Dutch unions FNV ABVAKABO and CNV said they had resolved disputes over job cuts which would stop a scheduled Christmas postal strike. TNT said that it had reached an agreement in principle with the unions regarding job cuts as a result of the impending reorganisation.

Union representatives said that they would vote on the agreement at the end of the January.

TNT said it agreed with union leaders to restrict job cuts through voluntary redundancies and attrition to 2,800 instead of 4,500. It said it will look at options to save the jobs of a further 200 drivers, will offer 300 employees temporary contracts through 2013 and help axed workers to find employment elsewhere.

More from Source:

http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/sec_20081016_gbkmEn

3. Successful wage negotiations conducted by DHL Employees' Union in Chennai

DHL Senior Management have been asked some tough questions by ITF/UNI on working conditions for their members in India. However, there are signs that the local DHL Management are preparing to work with unions, following the DHL Employees' union in Chennai successful negotiations with local DHL Management representatives, resulting in an improved Collective Bargaining Agreement. The improvements in terms and working conditions negotiated by the union have resulted in total increases of some 12% for their members employed in S3 and S4 categories.

The DHL Employees' Union has successfully negotiated the introduction of an attendance allowance, as well as substantial increases to the amount DHL pays for the reimbursement of educational expenses for employees' children. Enhancements have also been negotiated for basic wages and expenses and in other areas within the CBA.

4. DHL European Works Council gives CEO yellow card

Members of the DeutschePost DHL European Works Council gave Frank Appel the "yellow card" in their meeting with the DHL CEO. The EWC had heard from Mr. Appel that he would not agree to negotiate a Global Agreement on workers' and union rights with two Global Union Federations, UNI Global Union and the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF). Upon his refusal at the meeting to commit to this request, European Works Council members brandished yellow cards at him, with the message "respect workers' rights".

Mr Appel has received thousands of these cards in the mail already from DHL workers who sent them to him as part of the UNI ITF Week of Action to highlight workers' concerns over DHL's lack of respect for their rights.

Source: Accessible through UNI website. Use search function to enter, DHL European Works Council gives CEO yellow card."

5. Dutch government to investigate alleged Price Dumping by DP DHL and TNT

Dutch Government is to investigate price dumping by DP DHL on Dutch postal market. Should the investigation reveal that postal Sandd Selektmail and TNT subsidiary Network VSP structural are working at below cost in order to undercut competitors, the government will take action. The liberalisation of postal services in the Netherlands is at the expense of the working conditions of Dutch postal delivery workers.

Source: http://zembla.vara.nl/Nieuwsdetail.2624.0.html?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=35906&cHash=1a0cdcc63e184cd5181dcb9df08aa709&utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=Zembla+afleveringen+en+nieuws (NLD)

6. Dutch union fights DHL plans to decimate Dutch workforce

FNV director Egon Groen warned on 7th December that hundreds of jobs across the Netherlands would be cut. FNV announced that it will not simply accept DHL's plan to do away with about 10 percent of the total workforce and is planning a letter to the company, demanding an investigation into the need for cuts and to understand the full rationale behind the company's reasoning.

Collective bargaining between FNV and DHL last November showed that DHL is still benefiting from the continuing global economic recovery and that the profitability of DHL per share has more than tripled.

7. DHL converts two hundred full-time jobs to part-time status in Dutch “efficiency drive”

DHL Express has announced its intention to half the number of contractual hours for hundreds of workers in a Dutch Sorting Centre.

FNV expressed its fears that the halving of the hours and therefore the halving the salaries of workers will effectively mean that many will have to resign, as they can no longer afford to work for DHL. Employees employed in areas such as packing and as forklift drivers will be the worst affected.

More on this story available from Source:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homeEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNINews.nsf/vwLkpById/C7CE5A58BCE1A5B4C1257800005A470C>

8. NDU bargaining and recruitment drive brings benefits to their members in DHL

Following a bargaining and recruitment drive, the National Distribution Union in New Zealand is taking advantage of its increased strength in DHL to arrange for the training of their members to the Level 3 NZQA. Lindsay Powell, a NDU organiser credited this progress through NDU membership density and very good delegate structures with regard to recruitment.

9. DHL expands Asia-Pacific network

DHL is seeing to expand its freight services network in the Asia-Pacific to capitalise on the region's rapid economic growth. DHL aims to tap into the rapid growth in emerging markets, especially the Asia-Pacific, which would lead to increased demand for logistics services there.

Source:

<http://biz.thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2010/11/22/business/7441222&sec=business>, by Eugene Mahalingam, 22 Nov 10

10. DHL Express promotes exports from Panama

DHL Express exported about 410 million kilos from the free zone of Colón (Panama), more than 92 million of which had Venezuela as destination in 2009. DHL has a warehousing area of 8,300 square metres at the International Airport of Tocumén, where it is possible to realize the import and export process via its agents.

Source: UNI Global Union

11. Electronic components transported in first DHL direct flight from Asia to Mexico

DHL Express is the first company in the sector to have a direct flight from Manila in the Philippines to Guadalajara Mexico. DHL is using a Boeing747, which has a cargo capacity of more than 100 tons.

Fuente: http://cargainfo.com/front_content.php?idcat=2982&idart=14831 (SPA)

12. DHL announces alliance with Interstate Transport and Trans World Forwarding

DHL has announced an alliance with Interstate Transport and Trans World Forwarding (TWF) to form a supply chain to deliver perishable goods from Central and South America to the North.

This alliance will allow one single fleet to transport perishable goods, such as cut flowers, agricultural products and seafood overland in a temperature controlled environment. The goods will enter the US via Miami (either by land or by sea). Interstate will control the fleet for perishable goods there.

More available from Source: <http://www.fressko.com/articles/es/news/DHL-se-al%C3%ADa-para-mejorar-entrega-de-productos-perecederos+.html> + DHL se alía para mejorar entrega de productos perecederos <http://www.elfinancierocr.com>, 24 November 2010 (SPA)

13. Ver.di negotiates 18 month deal with Fedex

German union Ver.di has successfully negotiated a staged pay deal over the next 18 months, following strike actions by its members. The deal is worth approximately 5.5 % (of which 4% is linear), with an additional one-off payment for all staff of 125 Euros in January 2012.

1) from 1 December 2010 to 31 May 2011 a pay rise for full-time staff by 50 Euros (across the pay scale), proportional for part-time staff.

2) from 1 June 2011 to 31 May 2012 a total pay rise of 2.8% (2.04% linear, 0.76% performance-related).

14. Alen Clifford – New OGC Assistant Coordinator

Alen joined the Organising Globally team as its' Assistant Coordinator in November 2010. He will take responsibility for the organising agenda within targeted global delivery companies and regions. Alen will also contribute to the continued development of our active Young Members' network.

Alen has worked in the union movement on workplace organising campaigns both in Australia and in the UK.

Alen can be contacted on clifford_alen@itf.org.uk

Summaries of previously circulated labour news

- Web-based SMS module goes live across Africa
<http://www.itfglobal.org/news-online/index.cfm/newsdetail/5522/>
- DHL workers in India win benefits deal
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5526/>
- DHL workers in Switzerland in redundancy dispute
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5419/>
- DHL to cut jobs at Dutch sorting centre
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5484/>
- Unionists in Costa Rica challenge pre-Christmas dismissals at DHL
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5448/>
- TNT workers in the Netherlands take strike action
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5444/>
- TNT workers in Australia balloted on industrial action
<http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5490/>

The Global Delivery Newsletter is published online and emailed to those on its distribution list every 4-6 weeks. It contains news, information and notices that are of direct interest or relevance to the Global Delivery network. The Newsletter is compiled by Marshall Abrahams of the OGC Office in the ITF. If you have any suggestions for items that could be included in future issues or would like to be added to or deleted from the mailing list, please contact abrahams_marshall@itf.org.uk
