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UNI P&L

CONTENTS

- Stop Royal Mail privatization
- Successful wage negotiations conducted by DHL Union in Chennai
- Pakistan unions fight postal privatization
- Unions pleased that DeutschePost DHL to quit Dutch postal market
- Pitney Bowes to compete with mail through digital delivery service
- La Poste and some unions agree on wage increases
- Canadian postal workers want to meet the new boss!
- Suicidal Wave among French Postmen
- US Postal Unions Urge Obama To Fix USPS Pension Overfunding
- Strike action at TNT in Australia
- Change of Date for the UNI Post & Logistics World Conference
- Universal Service Obligation (USO) Questionnaire

privatization

Stop Royal Mail privatization

The UK Parliament has debated the privatisation of Royal Mail in the 3rd reading of the Postal Services Bill and passed the Bill on to the House of Lords. The Communication Workers Union says that government MPs have missed the opportunity to safeguard post offices and postal services by not backing key amendments.

Billy Hayes, CWU general secretary, said: "We're very disappointed that MPs didn't take the opportunity to safeguard post offices in today's parliamentary session. However, 6 MPs did recognise the importance of amending the Bill to safeguard post offices and voted against the government.



MPs from all parties spoke in favour of amendments showing the breadth of concern across the House. We will continue to campaign for protection for postal services and post offices as the Postal Services Bill moves into the House of Lords."

CWU deputy general secretary Dave Ward added: "This vote

strengthens our determination to fight the government's Bill. We'll be protesting in Ed Davey's constituency on 22nd January, making our voice heard when it comes to the future of the postal industry.

"There are wide-reaching implications from this legislation. In its current form it threatens the ongoing modernisation of Royal Mail and will destabilise the progress made to date. It also threatens the jobs, terms and conditions of our members and we'll do whatever it takes to defend against the damaging effects of privatisation." UNI General Secretary Philip Jennings has written to the UK Prime Minister, David Cameron, demanding that he stop the privatisation and pointing out that privatisation has always meant a degrading of the quality of postal services wherever it has been undertaken. UNI has said that the postal sector should remain in public hands and any issues regarding the future development of Royal Mail should be discussed with the UK unions.

A copy of the letter UNI sent can be found here:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNI-News.nsf/0/941414872BD01B78C1257816006014BF>

Successful wage negotiations conducted by DHL Union in Chennai

DHL Senior Management have been asked some tough ques-

tions 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 who are employed in S3 and S4 categories. The new agreement came into force on 1st January 2010 and will expire on 31st December 2012.

Among other benefits, 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.

Pakistan unions fight postal privatisation

Unions in Pakistan are fighting the privatisation of Pakistan Post saying it will not bring better services as claimed by the Government. The unions say the "evils" of privatisation will cost jobs and damage the service to customers and that Pakistan Post should be trying to develop its network and services and not be sold off to private companies only interested in chasing profit. The unions have held several demonstrations and one of UNI's postal affiliates in Pakistan, the All Pakistan Postal DMO Employees and Workers

Union (APPEDWU) has sent pictures of the protests and the message that "Please join hands with Pakistan postal workers against privatisation".

The union can be sent messages to: Asad Khan, General Secretary, e-mail: asadkhansfc@yahoo.com



Unions pleased that DeutschePost DHL to quit Dutch postal market

DeutschePostDHL is to abandon its efforts to compete in the liberalised Dutch domestic mail market by selling its local subsidiary, Selektmail, to rival company Sandd, the main competitor to TNT Post.

UNI Post & Logistics affiliate in the Netherlands, Abvakabo FNV director Peter Wiechmann said: "I assume this is the beginning of the end of the price war. Only then can we get back to normal postal rates, and regular employment. This acquisition provides opportunity to resolve the problems the postal market faces."

Wiechmann is pleased that DeutschePostDHL, the parent company of Selektmail, withdraws from the Dutch postal market. "All experts agreed that Selektmail was the strongest fighter in the price war. I assume that

there is now room for at least our final offer on employment conditions. The company does not in any event announce that there is no money for the postal carriers, because apparently there was enough money for a takeover of one of the competitors."

The deal, which has been agreed but still requires approval by the national competition authority, marks consolidation of the Dutch domestic market to two main players: the incumbent TNT Post and privately-owned Sandd, with a future market share of about 16%.

Sandd announced yesterday that it intends to take over the activities of Selektmail Nederland for an undisclosed sum. It will initially operate two parallel networks but then gradually integrate them. The company aims to achieve a market share of 20-25% in future. According to Dutch media, it currently has about 10% of the market compared to about 5% for Selektmail.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&eXURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNI-News.nsf/0/43ED26C40B97F3F0C1257818003A9609>

Pitney Bowes to compete with mail through digital delivery service

Mail technology company Pitney Bowes will launch a secure digital delivery service to connect high-volume mailers with consumers in the USA later this year, thus competing with traditional physical mail delivery.

Called Volly, the new service represents an online alternative to

traditional mail and enables consumers to receive, view, organise and manage bills, statements, direct marketing, catalogues, coupons and other content from multiple providers using a single application, Pitney Bowes explained.

More information at:

http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNI_News.nsf/0/44F0AFB4084721CCC1257818005A8292

La Poste and some unions agree on wage increases

La Poste and the French postal unions CFDT, CFTC, CGC and FO have signed an agreement concerning salary increases of postal workers.

The pay deal foresees general wage increases for employees in non-management positions of 0.6% taking effect on 1 April 2011 and 1.2% on 1 September 2011.

In addition, the agreement includes an increase in fringe benefits of 1.8% with effect on 1 July 2011.

Following the implementation of these measures, the first level of an employee's annual salary, including the basic salary and fringe benefits, will from now on amount to €18,337 gross which equals €1528 gross per month on average.

For employees in management positions, the general increase and individual adjustments are set at +0.7% and +1.8% respectively, to come into effect on 1 April 2011.

Canadian postal workers want to meet the new boss!

OTTAWA - The announcement of a new Canada Post President and Chief Executive Officer comes at a time when negotiations are underway with its largest union, CUPW. The union is hoping the new boss will mean some positive changes to the way things are being done.

"We have requested a meeting with Deepak Chopra to introduce ourselves and highlight some key concerns," said Denis Lemelin, National President of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers. "We think the corporation needs a management that understands that Canada Post is, first and foremost, a public service. It also needs a management that is willing to sit down with the union and solve problems."

Canada Post has demanded a large number of concessions at the urban operations bargaining table. It is also implementing a controversial modernization program that has negatively affected services, jobs, and health and safety for workers across the country. While declining mail volumes are being cited as a reason for pushing these changes, postal workers are hoping the new CEO will consider all the options. "Service expansion needs to be part of this discussion," said Lemelin. Canada Post could expand the services it provides to the population and generate the revenue it needs for the future. It could add banking, expand parcel delivery, extend door-to-door delivery and increase retail services. "The corporation has recently made some small moves in this direction but it could be doing much more. Other postal administrations around the world are dramatically expanding services

and we would like to see Canada Post take this positive direction."

Suicidal Wave among French Post-men

CGT, the main trade union center in France, has revealed alarming figures. A few days ago a postman committed suicide at the Vitrolles office, in the Bouches-du-Rhone region. According to the trade union organization, this is the fifth case reported in that area since the beginning of 2011. "We are caught in the middle of continuous restructuring. Working conditions have considerably worsened. Employees are exposed to unprecedented pressure by management," said Regis Blanchot of SUD-PTT. "We are subjected to practices similar to those of France Telecom," she assured. "We will end in the same manner." It must be noted that 58 employees of the telecommunications company committed suicide between 2008 and 2010.

"We are not preparing to go public nor is our market that competitive," said a spokesperson of the postal company, rejecting such comparisons.

Source: www.publimetro.cl

US Postal Unions Urge Obama To Fix USPS Pension Over-funding

The APWU and other postal unions and management associations have asked President Barack Obama to take "immediate action to save almost 100,000 good, middle-class jobs and stabilize the financial condition" of the Postal Service.

"A healthy postal system is critical for a healthy U.S. economy," the

organizations wrote on Jan. 12.

"The financial problems facing the Postal Service were made significantly worse by a Bush-era mandate that the agency pre-fund nearly 80 percent of its future retiree health care obligations by 2016 at a crushing cost of \$5.5 billion per year... No other agency or company in America is required to pre-fund such obligations at all, much less on such an accelerated schedule," the organizations wrote.

Had it not been for these payments, the Postal Service would have experienced a \$611 million profit over the past four years — despite the recent recession and competition from the Internet, the letter notes. The USPS experienced a deficit of \$8.505 billion in Fiscal Year 2010, and anticipates a deficit of \$6.4 billion in Fiscal Year 2011.

For more information, please visit:

http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/U_N_I-News.nsf/0/71AF88859F75AC3BC125781F006273FC

Strike action at TNT in Australia

TWUA (*Transport Workers' Union of Australia*) 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 as-

bestos, 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."

Earlier in January, as part of the current agreement negotiations, TWUA (Transport Workers' Union of Australia) members voted for industrial action because of TNT's rejection of every core part of the Union's claims

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](#)

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.twu.com.au/home/campaigns/tnt-2010-11-bargaining-campaign/>

<http://www.itglobal.org/news-online/index.cfm/newsdetail/5545>

Change of Date for the UNI Post & Logistics World Conference

Unfortunately UNI P&L has had to postpone the UNI Post & Logistics World Conference, 3-5 May 2011 (and the associated meeting on Innovations in Postal Services, 2 May 2011) due to be held in Washington DC. Please note that the new date will be during the period 6-9 September 2011 in Washington DC.

**TWU TNT update
31 January 2011**

TWU Carrying Australia

TNT/TWU Fair Work Agreement Negotiations

MEMBERS STOP WORK ACROSS THE NATION AT TNT

On Friday TNT workers nationally engaged in protected industrial action in order to secure a fair workplace agreement. TNT yards across all states were shut down by workers over the weekend. TNT workers are fighting for improvements over job security, fair wage outcomes and representation rights.

- Site Rates: Ensuring outside hire get the same rates as TNT workers there is no incentive to outsource your work.
- Fair Wages including company contributions to superannuation.

► Representatives Rights: So if you have any problems at work, you can be represented.

The TWU national negotiating committee has called for further meetings with the company.

► If you think this is fair aren't getting paid the right wages. What I don't understand is why TNT can't come to an agreement with us about these issues. TNT workers are good drivers, but these outside hire are not. They are not even up to scratch and are taking our work.

— Scott Birney - NSW Enfield Delegate

TNT members stand strong in order to get the agreement they need.



TWU members are legally entitled to engage in protected industrial action during the negotiations with TNT. Members have voted YES to taking Protected Industrial Action. If you have any questions contact your state TWU office.

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Universal Service Obligation (USO) Questionnaire – Re- minder

Last November UNI Post & Logistics sent out a questionnaire regarding the Universal Service Obligation. Indeed, UNI P&L is trying to make information available to affiliates on this topic. Several affiliates are helping UNI P&L to develop this information gathering and analysis. We would like to thank those of you who have already returned the questionnaire. For those of you who have not, please send it back as soon as possible to postal@uniglobalunion.org

The questionnaire may be found here:

http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNI_N_I-News.nsf/0/86EDAF0E2749653EC12578320054C575

Next Events:

UNI europa Post & Logistics Committee, 5-6 April, Brussels, Belgium

UPU POC meetings, 26 April - 13 May, Bern, Switzerland

UNI ITF Global Delivery Meeting, 23-24 May, Frankfurt, Germany

UNI apro Conference and P&L Committee Meeting, 1-6 July, Manila, Philippines

NALC, CUPW & UNI P&L Forum on Innovations in Postal Services, 6 September, Washington DC, USA

UNI Post & Logistics World Conference, 7-9 September, Washington DC, USA

UNI europa Conference, 4-6 October, Toulouse, France

UNI europa Post & Logistics Committee, 21-22 November, Brussels, Belgium

UNI Global Union

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