DHL Teamsters Stand Up for NMFA Language

On September 8, a second national conference call of DHL stewards and activists agreed on a firm defense of all the language of the NMFA.

“I don’t care what it says on the contract cover, but it has to be the same language as the NMFA.” That’s how one DHL steward summed up the issue.

Others agreed. We will settle for nothing less than the language of the NMFA,” said a second shop steward. A third said “This is not a time to retreat, but to progress.”

Our second conference call included more stations and locals, as our network continues to grow.

We discussed specific areas where management wants to weaken our contract, including: job security; protection of change of operations language; remain in the multi-employer grievance panels (no DHL company-dominated panels); retain right to strike; and no increase in part-time labor.

An activist from Chicago Local 705 voiced concern over the right to strike. Chicago is not in the NMFA or UPS or DHL national contracts; they have a separate contract which is very similar but in some ways superior.

We believe in bringing all up to best standards, not lowering the best to meet the bottom.

The IBT Freight Division is committed to winning exactly the NMFA language at ABF (which recently pulled out of the NMFA also). DHL Teamsters are not willing to become second-class Teamsters!

What You Can Do

Petition. Has your local or station submitted a petition requesting Steward Representation on the Negotiating Committee? If not, please get the petition, get it signed, and fax it to the IBT by the end of September.

Spread the Word. Copy and distribute these bulletins. Talk to your fellow DHL Teamsters. We are not going to lie down and take whatever DHL management wants to force on us, or what Brad Slawson may want to give them. No contract can be signed without our majority vote - we will stand united.

Stickers. We are producing union-made, three-color stickers to spread the word and build unity. (See above). Call to order yours or email dhlteam@dhlteamsterforum.com. Donations are requested to cover costs.

Proposals Meetings. Many locals have held DHL contract proposal meetings. Members have stated loud and clear, “No Retreat from the NMFA!” If your meeting is coming up, please attend and add your voice to that message.

National Negotiations Update

Brad Slawson announced in a September 7 letter that a majority of DHL locals presently in the NMFA signed the statement to establish a new national bargaining committee. All 27 locals presently in the NMFA will be covered. On September 19, Slawson will meet with DHL to determine the dates and locations of negotiations.