



District 26 DBR Everett Corey, left, congratulates Assistant DBR Jim Parent at a press conference announcing the court decision that halted Pratt & Whitney's plans to close two facilities in Connecticut. They are joined by IAM members, state lawmakers, including State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, center, and area labor leaders who all worked together to save jobs in the state.

Machinists Prevail in Pratt and Whitney Lawsuit

Local 700 and 1746-A members, labor leaders and state officials throughout Connecticut are celebrating a federal court decision that halts Pratt & Whitney's plans to close a pair of profitable factories that would have cost more than 1,000 jobs and devastated local economies.

U.S. District Judge Janet C. Hall ruled that Pratt & Whitney failed to honor IAM contract language that required the company to make "every reasonable effort" to work with the union to avoid closing the facilities.

"This decision confirms the value of a union contract when jobs are at stake," said Gregg Adler, one of the attorneys who argued the IAM's case. "Without a contract, employees have no ability to negotiate over the effects of a closure and the company retains absolute authority to send work and jobs overseas."

The dispute began in July when Pratt announced that it was considering shutting plants in Cheshire and Middletown, CT, and moving the work to Singapore, Japan and a non-union facility in Georgia.

In negotiations that followed, the IAM proposed more than \$80 million in savings, and state officials proposed more than \$100 million in tax incentives to keep the company from closing the plants.

When the company rejected both proposals, the IAM filed suit and argued that Pratt made the decision to move in advance of any discussions with union representatives.

The IAM continues to seek support from President Obama to stop additional outsourcing of sensitive defense-related work.

Boeing Tactics Raise Ethics Questions

In the wake of Boeing's decision to build a second 787 assembly line in South Charleston, SC, rather than Everett, WA, both states are coming to terms with a deal that sets a new standard for sham bargaining and corporate greed.

A preliminary tally of the taxpayer-funded incentives Boeing will get for agreeing to move to South Carolina exceeds \$900 million, including \$399 million in taxpayer-funded bonds and another \$456 million in long-term property tax breaks from Charleston County.

Boeing will receive additional



Washington state workers and taxpayers gave Boeing billions in incentives to assemble the 787 in the Puget Sound area, but now Boeing is raking in hundreds of millions from South Carolina to open a second 787 assembly plant there.

millions in income tax credits and investment refunds as construction and hiring proceeds.

Planned to Leave

"There's no longer any doubt that Boeing never intended to expand the assembly line in Washington state," said IAM General Vice President Rich Michalski. "As far back as 2003, Boeing was systematically laying

the groundwork for moving large-scale manufacturing capability out of the Puget Sound area."

During discussions with the IAM over the new assembly line, Boeing officials repeatedly claimed that long-term labor stability was essential. However, when the IAM proposed a long-term labor agreement, Boeing officials abruptly terminated all talks.

Spirit Talks Aim for Stability

The members of Local 839 and Wichita, KS-based Spirit AeroSystems have been battered by the worst recession in decades, draining jobs and profits and raising questions about the industry's ability to survive.

As part of the preparations for talks for a new contract that begin in March, IAM leaders and the Local 839 Bargaining Committee met with Spirit's President and CEO Jeff Turner and Vice President of Labor Relations Sam Marnick.

Both sides are exploring a new collective bargaining model that would protect IAM members while bringing a level of long-term stability.

"We need to move beyond the old ways of collective bargaining," said IAM President Tom Buffenbarger. "If there is a way to protect our members' long-term job security and assure their families' steady economic improvement, then we have an obligation to do so."



Front row, left to right: Local 839 President Kathy Peterson, 1st Shift In-plant Rep. David Eagle, District 70 DBR Steve Rooney and BR Becky Ledbetter. Middle row: 2nd Shift In-plant Rep. Howard Johnson, Headquarters GVP Rich Michalski, IAM President Tom Buffenbarger and Local 839 Communicator Dennis Williams. Back Row: IAM General Counsel Chris Corson, Grand Lodge Representative Don Barker, Aerospace Coordinator Ron Eldridge and District 70 BR Mike Burleigh.