



Goodyear Houston on Strike-A Plea for Justice

([PRWEB](#)) November 30, 2000 -- A Plea For Justice
For Goodyear Workers

Since October 10th, workers at the Goodyear chemical plant in Pasadena, Texas have been involved in a labor dispute with Goodyear Tire and Rubber based in Akron, Ohio. No, not over higher wages, nor even a modest wage increase. We are fighting for OUR VERY JOBS themselves!

Goodyear insists on contracting out union jobs at half the present pay rate, offering zero benefits to the contractors, who are dangerously incompetent and unskilled laborers. OSHA found that the use of unskilled contractors was the primary cause of over 30 deaths the past eleven years at Phillips 66. Is Goodyear following the same blueprint for greed, death, and devastation? A recent Goodyear environmental analysis determined that a release could kill all life within a three-mile radius of the plant. What is the rationale in having unskilled, inexperienced workers risking the lives of thousands?

In order to avert company demands to eliminate over 160 jobs held by highly skilled, experienced and loyal workers, the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 347 have submitted the unheard of proposal to management to reduce the wages of non-core jobs by 25% and by 5% in all other jobs! When the wage reductions the Union proposed were soundly rejected, our only option was to strike, which is what we believe Goodyear wanted all along.

During the last six weeks, we have been vigorously attempting to negotiate a contract that would forestall the unnecessary economic despair that will impact the lives of over 1,000 men, women and children who are being devastated financially and emotionally as a result of Goodyear's unwillingness to bargain in good faith. Where will Santa be on Christmas for these innocent children?

Interestingly enough, by Goodyear's own admission, the last time the plant had positive EBIT (Earnings Before Interest and Taxes) was 1996. The alleged steady decline in earnings began in 1997, when a new management team was put in place in Houston. Was this drastic drop in earnings due simply to management incompetence, or was this team put here with the specific intent of busting the unions through manipulation of critical management decisions to negatively impact plant earnings for a corporate tax write-off? And isn't it rather strange that after such a "STELLAR" performance by this management, that the former Plant Manager was promoted over the entire Chemical Division for a "job well done?" Mission accomplished, Goodyear, you've brought a formerly profitable plant that provided a means of support to loyal workers and their families to it's knees!



Contact Information

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We are United-Striking Goodyear Employees Resource

Online Web 2.0 Version

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