

Geneva, 6 November 2020

Dave Hummel
President
Cessco Fabrication & Engineering Limited
7310 99th Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 3R8
Canada
dave.hummel@cessco.ca; cessco.info@cessco.ca

IndustriALL Global Union calls on Cessco to stop lockout of Boilermakers and resume negotiations

Dear Mr. Hummel,

I am writing this letter to you as General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industrial-all-union.org), representing more than fifty million workers in the mining, energy and manufacturing industries in over 140 countries, including workers of the Cessco Fabrication and Engineering Ltd. In Edmonton, Alberta, represented by Local 146 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, an affiliate of IndustriALL Global Union.

We were shocked to learn that thirty workers have been locked out for over four months since 28 June at Cessco Fabrication and Engineering Ltd. facility in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Thirty families have remained without pay checks and benefits during the time of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ensuing unprecedented economic crisis, facing hardship and uncertainty.

We are aware that Cessco, which is part of Ontario-based Canerector Inc. (formerly Canadian Erectors Ltd.), presented its last, best and final contract demands on 25 June, along with a threat to lock out workers.

The Cessco contract called for a 10 per cent wage decrease, as well as decreases in pension contributions. Additionally, in the company contract's offer the seniority language—which is aimed at protecting workers against favoritism or bias and cementing clear, and sets specific rules for worker layoffs—was removed.

The workers had been bargaining with your company for over two and a half years and had not seen increases in wages or benefits in over five years. Workers had hoped to continue bargaining until a satisfactory compromise could be reached, but instead Cessco locked them out of their jobs.

IndustriALL Global Union urges you to return the locked out workers immediately to their jobs. We also call on you to restart negotiations with the workers' representatives in a spirit of good faith with the view to finding a fair solution and sign a new collective bargaining agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valter Sanches". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "V".

Valter Sanches
Secretary General