

Unity Council

Locals 2741 2784-3 5442 6571 7263 8581 8586 8740 8918 9473 9447-5 9777-29

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With a new four-year labor agreement in place for USW members in Joliet, negotiators at the two remaining Gerdau locations with open contracts are working hard to get contracts completed as soon as possible.

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Mark your calendars.

Workers at all Gerdau's global locations are planning to wear stickers demanding safe and healthy workplaces on September 12.



The action is a follow-up to declarations made at the USW Gerdau Unity Council's meeting in May to encourage the company to institute safety and health policies at all Gerdau locations creating a workplace atmosphere where employees know that they are expected to raise their voice when they recognize any threat to their safety or health.

The Unity Council also urged Gerdau to develop a strong working relationship with Gerdau Workers' World Council and to participate in a global agreement on Health & Safety.

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Terry Danahy, Gerdau's new Vice President of Human Relations, his new assistant Gary Schick and HR director Philip Bell traveled to Pittsburgh on July 9 to meet with International President Leo W. Gerard and his top assistants at USW headquarters.

Attending the meeting for the union with Leo were International Vice President Tom Conway; Assistants to the President Ron Bloom and Jerry Fernandez; and Director of Collective Bargaining and lead negotiator Jim Stewart.

The discussions were described as very frank and open with both sides agreeing to work on improving the eXTgbaf[c~gb'g XUXaX g'byUbg~cTegX!~7TaT]l~ TVXVb` \g Xag~gb'eX'bj XT~bcXa~TZeXX Xag~ quickly, fairly and equitably.

Future meetings are in the works to discuss a variety of common interests. Of note is the fact that both Danahy and Schick have extensive experience working with various unions. Schick did a stint at LTV Steel where he worked extensively with the USW.

