



National Office
Union Corporation Building • 1st Floor
77 Marshall Street • Johannesburg 2001
PO Box 9381 • Johannesburg 2000
Telephone: (011) 639 8000 • Facsimile: 086 636 8690
www.meibc.co.za
VAT No.: 4470117989

Tuesday, 29 July 2014

METAL INDUSTRY STRIKE SETTLED

After a bruising four-week strike in the metals and engineering industries, employers and trade unions today signed a historic three-year wage agreement ending the strike and opening the way for a return to work by thousands of striking workers across the country.

The nation-wide strike which commenced on 1 July, supported by five of the industry's biggest trade-unions, lasted a record four weeks.

The industry wide industrial action accompanied by employers retaliating with notices of lock-out action across the industry effectively brought the industry, and a number of important and related strategic industries to a virtual standstill, as employers and trade unions continued in their efforts to find a middle-ground.

The bargaining council regrets the enormous impact on lost production and the potential impact the industrial action will still have on the industry.

As employees return to work and employers begin to start-up production and make-up for lost time, the bargaining council pleads for restraint on both sides.

Now is not the time for retribution and the apportionment of blame. Industry is in dire need of leadership on all sides as relationships in the workplace must be rebuilt, trust restored and the interests of the industry and the country placed on centre stage.

The metals and engineering industries as a catalyst for growth must urgently bed-down the agreement and focus on the important tasks that lie ahead.

Employer and trade union leaders must restore confidence into the collective bargaining system and begin the important task of meeting the high expectation expected by employers, employees and all our stake-holders over the next three-years. The bargaining council urges all stakeholder to begin this important journey as quickly as possible.

Yours in Collective Bargaining

Mr Thulani Mthiyane
General Secretary MEIBC

Cape Region
PO Box 6095
Roggebaai 8012

Border Region
PO Box 13162
Vincent 5217

KwaZulu-Natal Region
PO Box 5900
Durban 4000

Midland Region
PO Box 12848
Centrahill 6006

Gauteng Region
PO Box 3998
Johannesburg 2000

Free State &
Northern Cape Region
PO Box 30095
Moreskof 9162

Centre for Dispute
Resolution
PO Box 9381
Johannesburg 2000

Tel: 021 421 6140
Fax: 086 636 8696

Tel: 043 743 7790
Fax: 086 636 8691

Tel: 031 305 4761
Fax: 086 636 8693

Tel: 041 586 1542
Fax: 086 636 8694

Tel: 011 639 8000
Fax: 086 636 8689

Tel: 057 352 4142
Fax: 086 636 8697

Tel: 011 834 4660
Fax: 086 636 8699