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Onderwerp: European Trade Union Organisations condemn GM decision to close Opel plant in Antwerp

European Trade Union Organisations condemn GM decision to close Opel plant in Antwerp

Brussels, 21/01/2010



European Trade Union Confederation [ETUC]
Confédération européenne des syndicats [CES]

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the European Metalworkers' Federation (EMF) condemn today's decision by GM management to close its Antwerp factory. This will affect 2,600 workers on the site and as many as 10,000 in the supply chain.

John Monks, General Secretary of the ETUC stressed "This is a massive blow to manufacturing in Belgium and I would urge GM to reconsider its decision and to do all it can to save these jobs in Antwerp".

"The decision is based on political grounds, rather than sound economic logic since the small SUV, which GM promised would be manufactured in Antwerp, is now going to be produced in South Korea" said Peter Scherrer, General Secretary of the EMF. The European metalworkers stand by their firm commitment to fight against any plant closures and forced redundancies in the GM Europe group.

Press 2/2010

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The EMF is the representative body defending the interests of workers in the European metal industry. The EMF has a mandate for the external representation and coordination of the metalworkers' unions and a mandate to engage in bargaining at European level. The ETUC exists to speak with a single voice, on behalf of the common interests of workers, at European level. Founded in 1973, it now represents 82 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.

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