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Major Unions Announce Landmark Organizing Campaign

Multiple Unions Join Forces to Organize the Linkel Company

Indianapolis, October 5, 2010: In a landmark move, three major Indiana construction unions announced today that they are joining forces to launch a comprehensive organizing campaign on the Linkel Company. The Indiana Laborers District Council and the International Union of Operating Engineers Locals 181 and 103 have all confirmed that they are quickly moving forward with strategic plans for a joint campaign on the Linkel Company.

It is quite unusual for three large unions to partner for a campaign of this type. When asked about the strategic partnership between the unions, Indiana Laborers District Council Business Manager, Frank DeGraw remarked, *“The landscape for organizing has changed for all unions and we are changing with it. It’s important that we join together to develop long-term strategic plans for the future. The key piece of this partnership is the fact that all three unions have the necessary resources to see this campaign through to a successful conclusion.”*

According to their web site, the Linkel Company is a construction contractor based in Batesville, Indiana. It was established in 1980 by brothers Tom and John Linkel. In addition to construction projects, the Linkel Company also has an auto-mechanic service shop; performs interstate/highway roadside mowing; and solid waste removal services for the towns of Batesville, Brookville, and Osgood.

DeGraw commented further on the joint campaign, *“The Laborers and Operators work well together in the field, it only makes sense that we work well together when organizing construction companies like the Linkel Company.”*

The Indiana Laborers District Council represents over 13,000 skilled tradesmen throughout Indiana. The International Union of Operating Engineers represents over 20,000 skilled tradesmen throughout Indiana.

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