



The American Companies

"NEWS-UPDATE"

July 8, 2008

Pacific Maritime Association and ILWU to Resume Labor Talks

As reported on Monday, July 7, 2008, negotiations look promising to continue between the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) in San Francisco with activity taking place Monday afternoon, after a three day break from discussions.

It was noted by Union spokesman Craig Merrilees that both sides will meet on their own Monday and possibly Tuesday "to clarify proposals" before returning to face-to-face negotiations on Wednesday."

Sources have stated that a date of July 14th has been set as a target date for at the least, a tentative contract proposal by the ILWU, the same time the ILWU will hold its caucus.

The previous West Coast waterfront contract expired on July 1st and employers have asked the union to extend the contract while negotiations continued for the new contract, but the ILWU has refused. However, union leaders urged the rank and file to refrain from work slowdowns or other job actions while they worked without a contract.

In efforts to maintain a "no strike" provision in the previous contract and continue negotiations on good terms, the PMA has also asked for the extension. The ILWU has refused to extend the contract at this point and it is hopeful discussions will continue with no slowdown or threat to labor operations at the port.

We will continue to keep you advised as to the developments of the negotiations.

Sincerely,

The American Companies



The American Companies

250 Moonachie Road (HQ Office - Full Service)
Moonachie, NJ 07074 (201-478-4600)

400 Oceangate, Suite 1106 (Full Service)
Long Beach, CA 90802 (562-435-2327)

881 Route 83 (Full Service)
Bensenville, IL 60106 (630-860-0782)

Domestic USA Ground Operations
Domestic USA Air Operations
Asheville NC 828-271-2061

3PL Locations
Fairview, NJ
Santa Fe Springs, CA