

Straight Talk

CAT TEAM Local 235A



TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015

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INTERNATIONAL ALLIES SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH LOCAL 235A

USW Local 235A members welcomed a delegation of allies last week from several international unions for a series of solidarity events in South Texas.

The brothers and sisters from industrial unions in Great Britain, South Africa and Australia joined members for Family Day on the picket line in Gregory, as well as for a road trip to the Houston offices of Glencore, Sherwin's multi-billion-dollar corporate parent. There, the group presented Glencore with a "silver medal" in recognition of the company's second-place finish in voting for the Public Eye "Worst Company" Award.

About 100 USW members and allies took part in the Glencore demonstration on Feb. 26. After presenting the "award," the group joined USW oil workers on ULP strikes in Pasadena, Deer Park and Texas City.

Patrick Mathebane, of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) in South Africa, said the



only way to win against global corporations like Glencore is to fight them on a global scale.

Alan Scott, a member of Australia's Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU), works at

Glencore's Clermont coal mine in north-eastern Australia, and is currently in a battle with the company over his illegal discharge.

"It's important that we come together and gain a better understanding of what's going on around the world," Scott said.

"The way that our brothers and sisters are treated is disgusting. We have the same struggles. We need to stand together," said Charlotte Upton, a steel industry worker and member of UNITE the Union in England.

One Day Longer – One Day Stronger