

# **At Atlas a Labor Conflict is imminent**

## **Union pushes for Tariff Agreement**

**IG Metall threatens with strikes if the new Atlas-boss Fil Filipov is not reasonable regarding a tariff agreement.**

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GANDERKESEE-DELMENHORST-VECHTA. At Atlas Maschinen GmbH an intensification of the conflicts about the work conditions of the employees is on the looming. IG Metall threatens with strikes if the new owner Fil Filipov does not enter negotiations on a new tariff agreement.

The threat of labor conflict measures is based on the result of a meeting of the IG Metall members at Atlas which was attended by 300 union members on Tuesday, as per Hartmut Tammen-Henke, 1<sup>st</sup> commissioner of IG Metall Oldenburg. By a unanimous resolution the unionist had commissioned IG Metall to initiate and implement a tariff movement now, says Tammen-Henke.

“We as IG Metall tried several times to get Mr. Filipov to talk about a tariff-based solution for the employees. The employees themselves expressed their desire of a tariff agreement in a large petition which was supported by 80 percent of the workforce”, Tammen-Henke states. On this there were no reactions at all from Filipov. On the contrary, he tried, by new employment contracts, to put pressure on the employees with worse conditions. According to the union representative, the employees did not sign these contracts with a wide majority.

As per the clear general mood of the workforce it is unavoidable that IG Metall now initiates the tariff movement. The owner was now officially summoned to enter negotiations. If he does not follow this, IG Metall is in a position “to execute special pressure with the means of the labor conflict.”

“We are still hoping that it does not have to come to this”, Tammen-Henke points out, “but that we can come to an amicable solution for the employees and the company in constructive talks.”

On inquiry of dk yesterday, Atlas-boss Fil Filipov, who had carved out the financially ailing construction machinery locations in Ganderkese, Delmenhorst and Vechta in April and transferred them into the Atlas Maschinen GmbH, did not comment “due to time reasons” on the imminent strikes. Filipov announced, however, that he will give this newspaper a statement today.