

18th July 2013

Solidarity with the victims and their families

Two Rumanian sub-contracted workers at Meyer-Werft in Papenburg, Germany, die in a fire in their lodgings

IndustriAll Europe is horrified to learn that not only do inhumane conditions occur in the Far East, but that even colleagues right on our doorstep are affected by this. Two Rumanian workers at a shipyard in Papenburg have lost their lives during a fire at their lodgings, which they were sharing with 12 other colleagues. Ulrich Eckelmann, the General Secretary of industriAll Europe, has expressed his most heartfelt condolences and solidarity for the two Rumanian victims and their families.

Ulrich Eckelmann has stated, "It is absolutely unacceptable and shameful that our colleagues are expected to live and work in conditions such as these, purely due to the fact that they are from Eastern Europe. The worst part of this is that it takes the death of workers for people to finally be prepared to discuss this taboo subject." He also demanded that the abuse of sub-contracted workers and contracts as a legal form of social dumping now stop. Everyone along the sub-contracting chain, including the shipyard owners, must be held accountable for this.

"It particularly saddens me that this tragic news has been announced right at a time when we have just reached an agreement on minimum social standards with the European Community of Shipyards' Associations. This only serves to highlight once more the necessity to make further improvements to the situation. We are now working hard to ensure the full implementation of these standards."

IndustriAll Europe continues to work closely together with its affiliates to actively stamp out all social inequalities.

Press 9/2013

For further information please contact: Mischa Terzyk
mischa.terzyk@industriall-europe.eu - Tél.: 0032 (0)2 226 0072