



CFMEU members in dispute with JELD – WEN 2011 Corinthian, William Russell Doors, Stegbar (SA)

More than 200 CFMEU members in NSW, Victoria, SA and WA were locked out during an industrial campaign against global door and window manufacturing giant Jeld-Wen.

CFMEU members employed at Corinthian and William Russell Doors, have been negotiating with the company since July for a new enterprise agreement. These enterprises are owned by the American company Jeld-Wen and have factories in St Mary's (in Sydney), Dandenong, Campbellfield and Scoresby (in Victoria), Regency Park (in South Australia) and Canningvale (in Western Australia).

CFMEU members at Stegbar, another Jeld-Wen company, are engaged in a parallel negotiation at the company's Pooraka, South Australia, door and window manufacturing site.



Members and officials protest at St Marys in NSW. Photograph Brad Hunter: The Daily Telegraph



CFMEU members on strike at the Corinthian South Australian Distribution Facility.

At all their Australian sites, the Jeld-Wen group have made a pattern offer of 2.5%, 2.6% and 2.9% for a three year agreement, which they have described as a non negotiable offer.

However, CFMEU members have rejected the pattern offer which is more than 1% below the current consumer price index and it is 2% below the cost of living index.

The company currently pays wages which are significantly below the average weekly wage for the manufacturing sector and has signalled that it intends to engage in a race to the bottom by attempting to use the award minimum wages as a benchmark for wage increases in these agreements.

The Jeld-Wen Group operates the Corinthian, Stegbar, Regency and Airlite, door and window manufacturing brands in Australia.



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In September 2011 CFMEU members at the Corinthian sites in SA, VIC, NSW and WA and at the Stegbar site in SA took lawful protected industrial action. The company notified a lockout several days prior to the commencement of the workers action and advised that the lockout would last longer than the workers action.

Despite the Company's heavy handed and disproportionate lockout, CFMEU members at Stegbar and Corinthian have taken industrial action. Stegbar members have engaged in stop-start strikes and are continuing overtime bans and intermittent stoppages. Corinthian members have now passed the 10th day out the gate. The CFMEU is supporting these members through its member support funds.

In blatant disregard for the freedom of association rights of CFMEU members, Jeld-Wen have now decided to by-pass the Union and send a postal ballot to workers homes in order to try and force through a sub standard agreement. The company has engaged various forms of replacement labour across the sites, in an attempt to break the resolve of union members.

The CFMEU and its members are engaged in a variety of ongoing activity including a VOTE NO campaign to send the company a clear message that workers deserve a decent pay rise.

Throughout the dispute the Union has welcomed support from other Australian and International Unions including the BWI and the UITBB. Many local unionists have visited the picket line in their state and offered practical support and solidarity. The Union and its members extend their grateful thanks for this support and hope that it will continue as the struggle for respect in this workplace continues.



Members locked out at Dandenong in Victoria. Photograph courtesy Greater Dandenong Weekly, photographer: Sam Stiglec



CFMEU members on Strike at Scoresby in Victoria

Visit the Union's website for regular updates as the dispute continues www.cfmeuffpd.org

To offer support or assistance for the Corinthian and Stegbar workers in NSW, SA, VIC or WA as the Dispute continues contact CFMEU FFPD Assistant National Secretary Leo Skourdombis on 0409 183 771 or CFMEU FFPD office (03) 9274 9200. Authorised Michael O'Connor, National Secretary CFMEU, 148- 152 Miller Street, West Melbourne VIC 3003