

To all aircraft workers in Wichita and Salina, KS

The headline in the Wichita Eagle on Sunday, Feb. 14th screamed: "Could Wichita be the Detroit of Aircraft?"

Good Question. Will good high-skilled, high-wage aircraft jobs be in Wichita in 10 years? In 5 years? Will the aircraft companies abandon the city and community that birthed and supported them for all these years for the cheap labor south of the border?

Will our children be crossing that border, in search of a job - any job? Will there be border guards with orders to keep out the American illegals?

Does it have to be that way? The answer is NO. The problems that befell Detroit were caused by horribly-managed companies who no longer cared about building cars that people wanted to buy. They took their eye off the ball, and the competition beat them, and they ran for low-wage labor elsewhere, but it didn't help them, either. They failed anyway.

And low-wage labor isn't going to help the aircraft manufacturers, either. Wichita's aircraft companies are at the top of their game, putting out innovative, high-quality airplanes that are second to none. You shouldn't mess with what works.

Outsourcing across the border - or the ocean - isn't the answer, building on our strengths IS the answer. The Wichita and Salina's workforce has aircraft in it's blood, workers whose parents and grandparents built this industry. We have a strong, skilled, innovative workforce who are far more productive with better quality than anyone else. The Machinists are here to partner with the community and companies that understand the importance of a strong, skilled workforce that can change, improve and innovate better than anyone else.

The Machinists Union will also fight companies that demand to take the low road, who don't care about our city and of our nation. These are jobs worth fighting for. We won't give up. Our children deserve a future.



**WILL OUR CHILDREN
HAVE TO CROSS THE
RIO GRANDE?**

District Lodge 70 - Wichita, KS - On the Web: d70iam.org

BATTLE FOR WICHITA

AEROSPACE

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers