



Privatization

30,000 MEMBERS AND GROWING

UNITE HERE represents 30,000 food and beverage and airline catering workers in North American airports. Our members work at private sector food and retail outlets under concession leases with the airport sponsor or its agent. We plan to extend quality job standards to all airports.

PRIVATIZATION IMPACTS WORKERS

A shift to private airport management creates a new set of challenges. It will be critical for private operators to facilitate the transition while making sure the process does not cause discord in the delivery of services. Private sector labor unions can offer assistance through this transition.

LABOR HARMONY: CONSISTENT REVENUE & LESS RISK

Because consistent retail and food and beverage services are so crucial for passengers, private operators should require sub-contracted service providers to conduct themselves in such a manner that they are assured of getting an agreement where the union waives its right to strike or boycott.

In order to mitigate labor risks, private operators should consider working together with labor unions which represent sub-contracted service workers to set minimum standards on the project.

The resulting “labor harmony” would achieve two outcomes:

- 1) it would ensure the uninterrupted delivery of services;
- 2) it would remove risks to predictable cash-flow from non-airline operations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Enter Memoranda of Understanding with union containing minimum labor standards for all sub-contracted services.

Demand labor harmony from all sub-contracted service providers on the project.