

BMWED NEWS RELEASE

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division - IBT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BMWED WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS — ORGANIZING WIN ON VAE NORTRAK NORTH AMERICA - BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

Southfield, MI — When the votes were counted on Friday, July 1, 2005, the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (BMWED) became the official representative of production and maintenance workers at VAE Nortrak America, Inc. in Birmingham, Alabama. VAE Nortrak manufactures railroad and transit track and supplies track materials to the rail industrial market.

The BMWED petitioned the National Labor Relations Board in May of this year, when enough authorization cards were secured to request an election. Over 90 percent of the employees turned out for the representation vote, and the majority said “Yes” to joining the BMWED.

“We are very pleased to welcome these new members and look forward to an open and honest bargaining relationship with management,” said President Freddie Simpson.

“I commend the in-house organizing committee, who were instrumental in the outcome of this election,” noted Tim McCall, BMWED Director of Organizing. “With their constant diligence, support of Teamsters Local 612, UAW Local 1155, officers, staff and members of the Southern System Division and part-time organizer Mark Barbour, the Irondale/Birmingham plant employees are now represented by a union.

The BMWED represents approximately 38,000 rail workers that build and maintain the track, bridges and buildings on the railroads across the United States.

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