## **EUROPEAN WORKS COUNCIL QUESTIONS RESTRUCTURING PROPOSAL**

On October 7, 2014, JTI publicly announced a proposal that could lead to the closures of the Lisnafillan production facility in Northern Ireland, the Gryson production facility in Belgium and the OTP production lines of the Trier plant in Germany.

This proposal would affect over 1100 employees.

The EWC strongly and unanimously opposes this proposal. It appears from the information received at present that the principal aim is to maximize profit for the shareholders while the impact on the company's business, the economies of the local operating environment and its reputation as a socially responsible employer has not been fully taken into consideration. The EWC fails to understand the rationale behind this proposal.

The meeting of the EWC in London on November 12/13 has identified the following points:

- A comprehensive consultation process needs to be ensured in Lisnafillan, in Wervik and in Trier, as well at EWC level.
- EWC representatives from Lisnafillan, Wervik and Trier must have the right to participate in all consultation meetings; the EWC proposes that members of the Steering Committee assist at local consultations in order to ensure support for all affected employees. The EWC reserves the right to invite experts to consultation meetings.
- The aim of the EWC is to secure the continuity of production in these three facilities, so that jobs are maintained. More than 1100 employees and their families need to have a clear understanding of what the future holds for them. What has to be done to achieve this goal? The EWC expects an answer to this question from management.
- Should job losses be unavoidable, the EWC is fully committed to ensuring that the company will arrange and implement solid social plans to include redundancy terms, training, outplacement services, support and other services to be identified.

The EWC is committed to informing employees of all developments regarding the proposal.

Donald Wilson/ UK
Frances Anderson/ Italy
Stephen Graham/ Lisnafillan
Silviu Iordache/ Romania
Andreas Schalek/ Austria
Peter Toepel/ ATG Germany
Harald Wiedenhofer / EFFAT

Patrice Chaussat/ France Pedro Pineda/ Spain Alistair Lowry/ Lisnafillan Dimitris Kranias/ Greece Roland Braun/ Austria Erica van Nigtevecht/ NL Michael Bergstreser/ NGG Frank Gildea/ Ireland
Miguel Solina/ Canary Islands
Traian Marin Ene/Romania
Klaus Schiffgen/ Germany
Thomas Mueller/ATG Germany
Dennis Berteloot/ Gryson

Gerd Willems

(EWC Co-Chairman)

London, 13 November 2014