



RK/IB/LR July 7

9th July 2004

**To the members of the EMF Company Policy Committee
To EMF affiliates
To the chairperson and members of the Kone EWC**

Dear Colleagues,

Re: Dispute at Kone's Pero-Milano plant (Italy)
Request for support

The FIOM-CGIL has informed us that the FIOM-CGIL coordinator for KONE, Salvatore Cassata, was dismissed on the spot yesterday.

He is accused by the company of disclosing confidential information: Salvatore Cassata informed his colleagues of the company's intention to relocate industrial activities to the Czech Republic, whilst refusing to give any guarantees for future production in Italy and the Pero (Milano) site.

The company decided in fact to set up a new production site in the Czech Republic at the beginning of this year, but has consistently refused to provide the local unions with information about the future of the company in Italy. (This multinational currently employs some 1,700 persons in Italy.)

This dismissal is an attack on trade unions' rights and an attempt to dissuade workers from taking action with regard to unfair company decisions. The EMF is calling for solidarity and pressure to be put on the company from the Kone EWC and Kone employees throughout Europe to reverse the dismissal decision and ensure full respect for the trade unions, their representatives and their rights.

You are kindly requested to take rapid action in this respect by sending protest/support messages to the company, marked for the attention of the Human Resources Manager: (italy@kone.com), and with a copy to Fausto Durante of FIOM-CGIL: f.durante@fiom.cgil.it

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Yours fraternally,

Reinhard Kuhlmann
General Secretary