



## **GKN Chemtronics Hires Hutchison Group to Negotiate New Labor Agreements for Boeing Acquisition in Kent WA**

### **New Agreement Improves Productivity and Competitiveness**

*January 2002* - GKN PLC has acquired, through its Chemtronics Division, the Thermal Joining Center (TJC) in Kent, Washington State, from the Boeing Company Military Aircraft and Missiles Group.



This increases its presence on the F22 Raptor fighter aircraft program and raising the value of the program to GKN to 1.4 billion dollars. The facility produces an important titanium assembly for the F22 using electron beam welding, it said. The US Air Force is currently set to acquire 331 F22 Raptors through 2013



Prior to concluding the Transaction, GKN Chemtronics hired Hutchison Group to negotiate new labor agreements related to its Acquisition of Boeing's Thermal Joining Center operation. Previously, in 2001, Hutchison Group successfully negotiated new competitive labor agreements for GKN's acquisition of Boeing's large machining facility in St. Louis, MO.

The new labor agreements For the thermal joint Center were ratified after several weeks of careful planning, and multiple Meetings with union leadership and employees. Cameron Hutchison, Hutchison Group president, stated "these new agreements will provide the new company with greater flexibility, as it allows for employees to perform a much wider range of tasks, that will significantly improve productivity and performance".

Founded in 1996, the Hutchison Group is an independent management-consulting firm, highly regarded for their ability to develop and implement innovative labor-cost strategies during mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and other business restructuring. Clients of the Hutchison Group include: Boeing, Westinghouse, United Technologies, Allison Transmission, CenturyLink, Untied Technologies, GKN PLC, and Spirit AeroSystems.



*The Hutchison Group is a highly regarded management consulting firm focused on all aspects of labor relations. We specialize in developing and implementing innovative labor cost strategies during acquisitions, mergers, divestitures, and business restructuring; and offer a broad range of other services designed to help reduce costs, improve productivity, and increase organizational effectiveness .*

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