

## Hutchison Group Helps to Settle Strike at Hawker Beechcraft

*September 2008* - The Board of Directors for Hawker Beechcraft retained the Hutchison Group to help settle a strike by the International Association of Machinists that commenced on August 5th. Following several weeks of negotiations the union and company were able to find common ground and ratify a new three-year labor agreement.

A union spokesperson stated that the initial sticking points revolved around health care, pension benefits and a salary disparity between Hawker workers and what their peers get paid at Cessna Aircraft. Workers also complained that the pay rise won't offset the rise in insurance costs.

"The company's offer was the best offer made to employees in more than 20 years," Hawker Beechcraft claimed in a written statement. "The company addressed every major issue brought to the bargaining table by union leadership, as the proposed package contains increased wages, more choices in health care plans, and improved medical, dental, vision and pension benefits."

The final settlement did not increase the company's costs, but did redistribute the funds into different areas that were more acceptable to the union membership.

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