



## GUW nurtures unified May Day

The **General Union of Workers (GUW)** nurtures the May the First celebratory party along with the **Central of Brazilian Workers (CTB)** and the **New Union Central of Workers (NCST)**.

The celebratory party of the May Day that the centrals nurtured in partnership with the Ayrton Senna Institute will have many original attractions. Starting with the alliance of these three union centrals resulting in the name "Unified May Day". In the cultural area, the Victory Exhibition will hit the highlights, by portraying the historical career of the pilot Ayrton Senna. The artistic area will have the concerts of Victor & Leo and the singer Leci Brandão, presenting live and exclusively.

The official opening of the unified May Day festivities was on April, 22, with the inauguration of the Victory Exhibition, in the Prestes Maia Gallery, downtown São Paulo. The exhibition will be extended until May, 15, and it shows trophies, helmets, kart, pictures and overalls of the tri-champion, besides the yellow Lotus that was piloted by Senna. Visitants have access to the Ayrton Senna Institute room and to the room of the character Senninha where children get to watch the film "Turning into a Champion".

For the May Day, from 1 P.M. on, **GUW**, CTB and New Central will offer to the workers a giant artistic concert at São João Avenue, near Julio Mesquita square. The major attraction will be Victor & Leo that will perform exclusively. And also the singer Leci Brandão will perform live. Besides them, there will be concerts of other solo singers and bands. At 5 P.M. it will start the political part, with the union centrals making a balance of the current situation and presenting the main claims of the workers.



The official release of the party happened on April, 15, with a press conference interview. The directorship of the **General Union of Workers (GUW)** and the one from the partner centrals made a short explanation on the festive event.

All the union chairpersons that made a speech pointed out the importance of this unification and the delightful idea of remembering to pay homage to Ayrton Senna, that became a myth of the international motoring.

**1º de MAIO Unificado UGT - CTB - NCST**  
**Dia Internacional do Trabalho**



**22 de abril a 15 de maio**

**Vitória** *Exposição Ayrton Senna*  
*Homenagem aos trabalhadores*  
Galeria Prestes Maia - Vale do Anhangabaú  
das 9h30 às 19h - entrada franca

VENHA VER A LOTUS PILOTADA POR AYRTON SENNA  
E GALERIA DE TROFÉUS

**Show do 1º de maio 2009**

**EXCLUSIVO:**

**Apresentação AO VIVO de**  
**Victor & Léo**

e mais:  
Daniel • Alexandre Pires • Inimigos da HP  
KLB • Sorriso Maroto • Leci Brandão • Pixote  
e muito mais!

a partir das 13h  
Avenida São João - Centro  
(entre a praça Júlio Mesquita e a Avenida Ipiranga)



## GUW on the fight against the crisis

### GUW requests to Lula measures against collective dismissal



At a meeting on April, 8, with the president **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** and four ministers, besides representatives from union centrals, the **General Union of Workers - GUW** - requested from the government measures against businessmen under bad faith that are encouraging indiscriminate dismissals in sectors of economy that were not affected by the crisis. **Canindé Pegado, General Secretary of GUW**, even suggested that the government should regulate the concept of collective dismissal and create sanctions for these cases, because the way it is makes it hard to apply any kind of penalty.

**Ricardo Patah, president of GUW** said that he came out of the meeting with the certainty that the government will not adopt any measure that might damage the worker. "I requested the president Lula that it cannot be considered to use the social security and it was guaranteed that in his government any worker right will be violated".

**Canindé Pegado** said that it is necessary that the government adopt measures to calm down the worker, that currently leaves their house afraid to go back unemployed. "Nowadays the worker lives the same drama as the cowboys that, besides dealing with the fall they ended up flinging down", that is, besides the fear of losing their jobs they are insecure as far as the guarantee of their labour rights". He added that the institution supports the measures of the government of reducing taxes from cars and other products, but suggested that besides these initiatives the government should create an incentive to the companies such as subsidized credit and reduction of taxes for those that kept the job levels or even increased their job positions.

### GUW wants additional unemployment checks for all

Representatives of the General Union of Workers (GUW) signed a protocol today at the Supreme Federal Court (SFC) to a lawsuit requesting that all workers that were fired get benefits through the extension of the unemployment checks and not only the former employees of the metallurgic, mechanic, textile, chemical, automotive and rubber industries, as determined by the Labour Minister.

According to the president of **GUW, Ricardo Patah**, since September more than 700 thousand workers lost their jobs, but only 103 thousand have the right to receive two extra shares of the unemployment check. "All the workers that were fired are just as victims of the crisis as the ones from the classes pointed out by the minister of Labour. It is not fair, therefore, that they get discriminated by the government", he stated. *(Mariângela Gallucci) (Agência Estado, 13.04.2009)*

### GUW suggests measures to preserve jobs

The measures were suggested by the representative of **GUW, Antonio Maria Cortizo**, during a hearing nurtured by the Special Committee of the Financial Crisis - Sector of Services and Jobs. Other union centrals also participated in the hearing. Cortizo defended the limitation of working overtime as a way to create new job positions. He pointed out that GUW defends the increase of the income level of the workers that have the right to be exempt from the income tax, as a way to increase the workers income, the consume and production of the country.

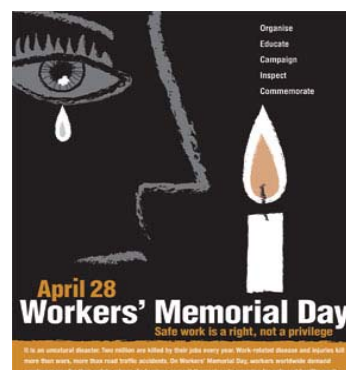
The writer of the special committee, deputy Vicentinho (PT party - São Paulo) affirmed that some of the suggestions presented by union leaderships should be obeyed, such as reduction of work shifts and extra hours and the commitment of companies that were benefited by fiscal incentive to suspend dismissals. Vicentinho also agrees that some of the dismissals that were made in the past months don't have a straight relationship with the international financial crisis.

**April, 28: International Workers' Memorial Day**

**Security and health of the worker**

*Marcos Afonso de Oliveira*

**On April, 28, it is celebrated the "International Workers' Memorial Day". This initiative happened in Canada, due to a decision of the union movement and it ended up spreading through several countries. The date was chosen due to an accident that happened to kill 78 workers in a mine in the state of Virginia, United States, in 1969.**



The **International Labour Organization (ILO)**, since 2003, devotes the day to a reflection over health and safety at work. In Brazil, May, 2005, the day of April, 28, was instituted as the "International Workers' Memorial Day and Labour Diseases under the Law 11.121.

The "Labour Day" (May the first) also came out as a result of a tragedy in 1886 when thousands of workmen went out on the streets to protest against inhuman work conditions under which they were submitted and demand the reduction of their work shifts from 13 to 8 daily hours, resulting in dead, wounded and arrested workers in confrontations with the police. Three years later, during a Socialist Congress held in Paris, it was created the "International Labour Day".

In Brazil there is an extent legislation that disciplines Labour and grants rights and benefits to workers. It is important that on the 28th the union organizations, legitimate protectors of labour rights, make a reflection over the Brazilian reality to what concerns the incidence of accidents at work. Just to have an idea: in 2004 there were listed 465.700 accidents in the country. In the following year this number went over to 499.680 and in 2007 it increased to 653.090 accidents, according to the statistic directory of the Social Security. Imagine the financial tax that it causes to the government cash flow and also to the companies. Not to mention the families of these workers that were in accidents.

Therefore, it is expected that, on April, 28, the government pay attention to the real conditions that the Brazilian worker has to go through. Why do so many accidents at the working environment happen? How is the health of the Brazilian worker nowadays? How is the system of safety at work in the Brazilian companies? It's not worth it to have an "elephant in the living room". It is known that, from the rural area until the most developed centers, there are news of the existence of malnourished workers and / or carriers of several diseases. Not to mention addicted to drugs, such as alcohol. How can a professional be able to produce under such conditions?

It is time we said: enough! We cannot admit, under any circumstance, that thousands of workers are victims of their own occupations. Unions and institutions that are protectors of labour rights have to get together to demand measures under an emergency character over the risk of having, in a short period of time, an enormous legion of people disabled to work even threatening to reach a chaotic state of the Health and Social Security departments cash flow.

**Marcos Afonso de Oliveira** is the **National Secretary of Publicizing and Communication of G UW**

## GUW was present at the 5th Summit of the Americas

Ricardo Patah, president of the General Union of Workers (GUW) participated in the 5th Summit of the Americas that took place in Port-of-Spain, capital of Trinidad and Tobago, on April 17 and 18. The event, nurtured by the Organization of American States (OAS) united chiefs of State and government from the 35 countries in the Western hemisphere to discuss the topic "Securing our Citizens' Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability".



Ricardo Patah said that the presence of **GUW** in this international meeting is very important having in mind the issues that were debated, all of them highly representing the interest of the working class. It will be, according to **Patah**, an opportunity for the participant countries to deepen their discussions on the impact of international economic crisis and try to consolidate the agreements signed at the G20 (group of developing countries) meeting that happened in early April in London. The president reminded that, the same way **GUW** was present at the World Social Forum, that took place in Pará in early 2009, it is present at the Summit of Americas to discuss the situation of the working class within the world conjuncture in this moment of crisis.

## UTAL uses GUW newsletter as supporting material



The Spanish version of the newsletter "**GUW Global News**" will be used as supporting material by the **Universidad de los Trabajadores de América Latina "Emilio Máspero"** - (University of Latin America Workers) **UTAL**.

Through a message that was delivered to the **Communication Secretary of GUW**, the adjunct-director of **UTAL**, **Luis Hernando Ríos A.** congratulated the publication affirmed it is a valuable tool to the education work developed by the institution: "We are deeply thankful to the GUW newsletter, it is a valuable tool to our education work in the University of Latin America Workers".



"The **General Union of Workers (GUW)** reaffirms its historic commitments to the working class, while seeking to expand its methods of action, with ethics, courage and the certainty that Brazil can be better and more just. " **Ricardo Patah – UGT's President**

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