



**IMF IMB FIOM
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INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS' FEDERATION
INTERNATIONALER METALLGEWERKSCHAFTSBUND
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ORGANISATIONS DE TRAVAILLEURS DE LA METALLURGIE
INTERNATIONELLA METALLFEDERATIONEN
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES DE LAS INDUSTRIAS METALURGICAS
FEDERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI SINDACATI METALMECCANICI

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President: Jürgen Peters
General Secretary: Marcello Malentacchi

MM/kp

August 2, 2007

Dr. Chris Roberts
CEO Cochlear Pty. Ltd.
Cochlear Headquarters
14 Mars Road, P.O. Box 629
Lane Cove, NSW 2066
Australia

Dear Dr. Roberts,

As general secretary of the International Metalworkers' Federation, representing 25 million metalworkers worldwide, I would like to express my deep concern regarding your company's refusal to recognize 260 Cochlear workers' decision to be represented by the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union.

I understand that in spite of two ballots that overwhelmingly called for union representation by the AMWU, your company has tried and failed to force workers to accept a non-union agreement, a proposal they have rejected twice.

As you know, the right to form a union and the right to collectively bargain are internationally recognized labour rights and part of the International Labour Organization's Convention 98, which was ratified by Australia in 1973. I strongly urge you to respect your employees' decision to have union representation, employees whose hard work and experience has helped you build a dynamic company and produce an important hearing device. I encourage you to meet with the AMWU immediately to resolve this issue.

Should Cochlear continue to turn a deaf ear to the rights and wishes of its workers, the IMF is prepared to fully support the AMWU in their efforts to protect a worker's right to union representation, and will raise this issue with our affiliates throughout the world.

Thank you for your immediate consideration.

Sincerely,

Marcello Malentacchi
General Secretary

cc: AMWU