

Cochlear Manufacturing Workers' Appeal for Human Rights!

To: Friends of Cochlear Hearing Implants

We Cochlear workers at Sydney's manufacturing plant in Australia have been campaigning for the right to have our pay and conditions protected by a collective union agreement. We manufacture the nucleus freedom implant products. There are 260 manufacturing workers who work hard to ensure that Cochlear's high quality products reach all corners of the globe so that you can work with Cochlear's customers to improve their hearing.

Over many years we have negotiated wages, conditions and job security as part of a collective agreement between our union and Cochlear management. Because of the introduction of the Australian Government's unfair labour laws, Cochlear's Australian management have refused to negotiate a collective agreement with our union, the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union. This has caused a lot of disruption and anger amongst workers at the Sydney production facility.

We have voted twice in ballots conducted by the AMWU for Cochlear to negotiate a fair deal with our union. We have also, in two separate ballots, voted to reject Cochlear's two attempts to force us to accept an unfair deal that excludes our union.

We just want a fair deal that recognises our basic human right, the right to be represented by our union so that we can return to ensuring the continued supply of high quality Cochlear implants to our customers around the world. We would be very grateful if you would distribute this memo to your colleagues and write letters of support for us to the Australian management of Cochlear.

Please visit our webpage on our union website www.laborstart.org/cochlear

Thank you for your support,
Australian Cochlear Workers

