

UNIONIZATION → JULY-AUG 2016

The following are Oregon and Southwest Washington workplaces where workers have decided whether to be represented by a union. The thumbs-up symbol means workers will be union-represented. Thumbs-down means they'll be on their own. The information comes from the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board.

Union election results

Employer (Location) Union	Yes-No	
Peacehealth St. John Medical Ctr. reception (Longview) SEIU Local 49	70-43	👍
Commercial Aircraft Painting Services (Portland) Machinists W24	80-68	👍
GBW Railcar Services railcar repair (Chehalis) Sheet Metal Local 66	39-37	👍
Universal Recycling Technologies (Clackamas) Steelworkers Dist 12	12-12	👎
Menzies Aviation cabin cleaners (Portland) SEIU Local 49	14-0	👍
Cowlitz Family Health Ctr. (Longview) Machinists Lodge W536	22-10	👍
Cowlitz Family Health Ctr. (Longview) Machinists Lodge W536	0-6	👎
Heritage Glass (Portland) Glass Workers Local 740	6-9	👎

Unionization by majority sign-up

Employer (Location) Union
Crook County Fire and Rescue (Prineville) International Assn. of Fire Fighters
▪ 13 firefighter/paramedics, lieutenants and captains

Support for TPP costs Gov. Kate Brown endorsement from Oregon Machinists

Gov. Kate Brown's support for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) has cost her an endorsement from the Machinists Non-Partisan Political League (MNPL), the political arm of Machinists District W24.

Brown, a Democrat, is running for re-election in November. "We had every intention of endorsing her, but when she came out in favor of the TPP, our support ended," said John Hall, secretary-treasurer of the 2,300-member Machinists Lodge 63 and chair of the MNPL.

Hall said the Machinists' international union is dead-set

against the TPP. "Our union has lost thousands of jobs due to bad trade deals. Our international has said 'anyone who supports the TPP, we won't support.'"

TPP is a NAFTA-style pact between the United States and 11 Pacific Rim nations, including three that have poor human rights records and no current trade agreement with the U.S.

Organized labor strongly opposes the TPP, and presidential

candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump say they don't support it.

TPP negotiations concluded last October, but to take effect, the pact must be approved by Congress.

Unions affiliated with Machinists District W24 represent workers at Boeing, Freightliner, and a number of automotive repair shops and general manufacturing companies in Oregon.

Menzies cabin cleaners go union at PDX

A group of 53 aircraft cabin cleaners at Portland International Airport has joined Service Employees (SEIU) Local 49. The workers are employees of Menzies Aviation, which has a contract to clean planes for Alaska Airlines as well as for its subsidiary Horizon Airlines and

partner SkyWest Airlines. The tally was 14-0 for the union in an Aug. 16 election overseen by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). A majority of the workers had previously signed union cards.

Workers wanted to unionize because of concerns about safety, turnover, and the lack of a livable wage, said Local 49 spokesperson Jesse Stemmler in an email. Most workers in the group are paid minimum wage, and even lead cabin cleaners make just \$12 to \$14 an hour.

Menzies earlier tried to avoid the NLRB election by making legal arguments that the cabin cleaners should unionize under the Railway Labor Act, not the

National Labor Relations Act. Under the Railway Labor Act, the workers would have had to unionize every location nationwide. But a federal administrative law judge rejected those arguments, and ruled that Menzies is not an airline, and that Alaska Airlines doesn't directly oversee the work of Menzies employees.

SEIU represents Menzies workers at Los Angeles International Airport.

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