The parties returned to the table today. The Union presented a recap of the global list of issues in play this year, which are approximately 31 items to date. 4 items have been resolved to a tentative agreement to date. The Union presented a list of information requests related to Healthcare. The parties discussed numerous issues, and then went into caucus session in hopes of being able to resolve other items during Friday's session.

The Union spent the day on Thursday, October 13th in caucus.

On Friday, the Union presented the company with a number of informational requests related to the company's proposal on Healthcare. In order to have a thorough discussion on the subject, the Committee must be current on the state of this important benefit.

The company also proposed a change to Per Diem Paid Days Off. This is in response to the changes occurring in the Federal and State laws requiring paid days off for temporary workers. The Union has aggressively defended both the paid day off and the newly added benefit. The company is concerned about being double penalized to pay time off from work, and the Union has expressed a willingness to resolve the concern in a way that recognizes the company's rights under the new law and giving our members the best possible outcome.

While a number of items represent subtle changes to the contract, many are very substantial and will affect how our work is done, who does it, what you are paid and how you are paid. The last hurdles to clear near the end of this round will be your cost of health care and your pay rate.

The Negotiating Committee is considering a Membership meeting to answer your questions however at this time there are still too many items in play that could actually reach an agreement or a fixed position. We would prefer to give the process a chance for our issues to stabilize before we discuss them in depth.

The next meeting dates will be October 26, 27, and 28.

Please be aware that our coworkers at Fusion are organizing with the Writers Guild East.
If you have any questions or concerns, please refer to our official bulletins or your negotiating committee members. We thank you for your support and cooperation as we work through this process.

Fraternally,

NABET-CWA/KMEX Negotiating Committee

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT NABET-CWA LOCAL 53’S WEBSITE AT:
http://www.nabet53.org