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# Teamsters Local 617 Welfare & Pension Funds

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June 2012

## Notice of Critical Status For

### Teamsters Local 617 Pension Fund

This is to inform you that on May 29, 2012 the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the plan sponsor, that the plan is in critical status for the plan year beginning March 1, 2012. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

#### Critical Status

The plan is considered to be in critical status because it has funding or liquidity problems, or both. More specifically, the plan is in critical status for the 2012 plan year because it was in critical status for the 2011 plan year and the Plan's actuary has projected that the Fund is expected to have an accumulated funding deficiency in one or more of the next ten plan years.

#### Rehabilitation Plan and Possibility of Reduction in Benefits

Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the plan. The Plan's Board of Trustees adopted a Rehabilitation Plan on June 7, 2011. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called "adjustable benefits" as part of a rehabilitation plan. If the trustees of the plan determine that benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of adjustable benefits (other than a repeal of a recent benefit increase, as described below) will not reduce the level of a participant's basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions may only apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after August 1, 2011. But you should know that whether or not the plan reduces adjustable benefits in the future, effective as of August 1, 2011, the plan is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical status.

#### Adjustable Benefits

The plan offers the following adjustable benefits which may be reduced or eliminated as part of any rehabilitation plan the pension plan may adopt:

- Post-retirement death benefits;
- Sixty-month payment guarantees;
- Disability benefits (if not yet in pay status);
- Early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy;
- Benefit payment options other than a qualified joint-and survivor annuity (QJSA);
- Recent benefit increases (i.e., occurring in past 5 years);
- Other similar benefits, rights, or features under the plan

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#### Employer Surcharge

The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the plan a surcharge to help correct the plan's financial situation. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the plan under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. With some exceptions, a 5% surcharge is applicable in the initial critical year and a 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding plan year thereafter in which the plan is in critical status.

#### Where to Get More Information

For more information about this Notice, you may contact the Fund Office, at 587 Bergen Blvd, Ridgefield, NJ, 07657 or (201) 941-7290. You have a right to receive a copy of the rehabilitation plan from the plan.