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**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL COMMITTEE SPOTS EXCELLENCE
IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT COOPERATION AT SOLUTIA**

EDWARDSVILLE, ILL., MARCH 13, 2001 . . . To help uncover some of the area's leading examples of labor and management cooperation, the Labor-Management Committee of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois has been touring area companies to learn more about what they're doing to nurture relationships within their organization.

The most recent tour was held at the Solutia Krummich plant in Sauget, Ill., which is home to four chemical-related businesses operated by Solutia. The company has been working over the past 50 years to ensure that relationships remain strong between labor workers of ICWUC Local 12C employees and Solutia management.

"Solutia management and ICWUC Local 12C work together in a number of cooperative efforts that benefit our workers, our plant, and the community," said Don Ridenhower, community relations coordinator and fire chief at Solutia. "Some of the efforts of which we are most proud focus on charity and community involvement with our top priority being the safety of our workers."

In August 2000, OSHA recognized Solutia's commitment to safety by honoring the company with the OSHA VPP STAR Award, which is the most prestigious safety recognition in the industry.

"There are six million private industries in the United States and only 704 have been accepted into the OSHA VPP Program. Only a portion of those 704 companies achieve STAR status, which is the highest level of recognition. We are very proud to have been recognized for our commitment to safety," added Ridenhower.

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Solutia Labor-Management
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Solutia points to its KARE (Krummich Accident Reduction Effort) program as one of the top reasons it was recognized by OSHA. Jointly designed by ICWUC Local 12C with support from Solutia management, the program focuses on an observation and feedback process to improve worker safety. Rather than having management observe employees' safety practices, the company has found peer observation and feedback more effective.

“Solutia has developed an outstanding program for measuring and monitoring safety practices within the plant,” said Marv Finkelstein, executive director of the Labor-Management Committee of the Leadership Council. “Solutia’s labor workers and management teams have proven how good things can happen when labor and management work together in cooperation.”

Solutia has developed other programs within the company, including the Employee Charity Fund, which contributes funds to many local charities and organizations. Other programs include the Junior Achievement and Community Advisory Panel, both of which work to develop partnerships between the plant and the community. Solutia also operates one of three industrial fire departments in the State of Illinois that have been recognized by the State Fire Marshall.

The Labor Management Committee also recently toured the Alton Mental Health facility in Alton and plans to visit other companies throughout Southwestern Illinois to learn about their programs.

The Labor-Management Committee was formed in 1983 by the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois and exists to serve employers and unions in Madison and St. Clair counties in Illinois. Programs initiated by the Committee are funded by grants provided by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

For more information about the Labor-Management Committee of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois, please call (618) 650-2681 or visit the Labor-Management Committee Web site at www.ezl.com/lmc

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