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**THURSTON JOINS LABOR-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS**

EDWARDSVILL, ILL., May 19, 2003 . . . The longest, continuously operating labor-management committee in the State of Illinois – the Labor-Management Committee of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois – has added Bill Thurston as a new member.

Thurston is president of the Southwestern Illinois Central Labor Council AFL-CIO representing St. Clair and Monroe counties in Illinois. He serves as a member of the Labor & Industry Museum, Laborer's Local 100 in East St. Louis and the United Way of Greater St. Louis. With a long and distinguished history in organized labor and labor and management cooperation, he joins the committee as the 12th labor member. The Labor-Management Committee is made up of 12 labor, 12 management and two ex-officio members from companies and unions throughout Southwestern Illinois. The committee strives to promote labor and management cooperation and communication in an effort to improve the labor and management image in Southwestern Illinois.

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. 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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