

A group of 186 distribution center workers at IKEA distribution centers in Joliet and Minooka, Ill. voted in July to join the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM). IKEA is in the process of transitioning work from Minooka to its new facility in Joliet.

The organizing win gives a boost to the IAM's internationally backed campaign to unionize thousands more IKEA distribution and fulfillment center workers.

The IAM also represents workers at IKEA facilities in Danville, Va., Perryville, Md., Westampton, N.J., and Savannah, Ga.

“By joining the Machinists Union, these men and women will be a part of the strength we continue to gain for IKEA workers,” said **IAM International President Robert Martinez Jr.** “This was a total team effort for the IAM. I want to thank lead organizer Dennis Mendenhall and the Organizing Department, the Midwest Territory, Local 701, District 8, the Woodworkers Department, and BWI for making this win possible.”

“On behalf of the IAM Midwest Territory, I would like to welcome the women and men of the IKEA distribution centers in Joliet and Minooka.” said **IAM Midwest Territory General Vice President Steve Galloway.** “Congratulations on taking the first step towards securing a better future for you, your families, and other workers across the U.S. who are still fighting for a union and a real voice at their place of work. This was a collective effort.

Local 701 Business Representative Rich Handler is currently bargaining a first contract at this facility.