

A VISIT IN **DYCKERHOFF POLSKA** **Sp. z o.o.**

The Chairman of the “Budowlani” Trade Union, Zbigniew Janowski, together with the chairwoman of the Świętokrzyskie District, Anna Bujnowska, and the national secretary for organisational matters, Tomasz Nagórka, visited Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o. and its cement plant in Nowiny. As part of the visit, they met with representatives of the Board of the Inter-Enterprise Organisation of the “Budowlani” Trade Union in Nowiny, which operates within the enterprise, and with Director General and President of the Management Board of Dyckerhoff Polska, Krzysztof Kieres, who is also the Chairman of the Cement Producers Association. During the meeting with Robert Latos – chairman of the organisation, and Wioletta Kłys – member of the Management Board, we talked about trade union activities in the enterprise.

The “Budowlani” Trade Union in Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o., where about 350 people are employed, is composed of 70 members. Apart from “Budowlani”, another trade union which operates within the company is “Solidarność”, which has a similar number of members.



Od lewej Tomasz Nagórka, Anna Bujnowska, Robert Latos, Krzysztof Kieres i Zbigniew Janowski

From the left: Tomasz Nagórka, Anna Bujnowska, Robert Latos, Krzysztof Kieres and Zbigniew Janowski

The cement plant in Nowiny can boast of a very good work organisation, guaranteeing the safety of both employees and third parties staying on its premises. For several years, the cement plant team has been working without an accident. It is thanks to the involvement of employees in activities for the improvement of the effectiveness of the occupational health and safety management system, their approach to safety and detection of potentially dangerous events. Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o. makes every effort to constantly improve the health and safety conditions, which is greatly supported by the members of the Management Board of the organisation.

Representatives of “Budowlani” operate in the company’s health and safety committee. As noticed by Robert Latos, the chairman of the organisation, it is interesting that apart from the permanent members of the committee, an occupational medicine doctor participates in its work, which is undoubtedly an added value for its activities. „Budowlani” are also represented in the social committee. The employees of the cement plant can take advantage of e.g. self-arranged countryside holiday (the so-called “holidays under the pear tree”), Multisport card and educational allowance for children. In the plant, there are in-house and departmental social labour inspectors. One of them is Roman Jakubczyk, a member of “Budowlani”.

During the subsequent increases in the number of COVID-19 cases, the plant has continued its work. The boom in construction allows it to generate continuous profits. The company complies with the sanitary regime, protecting the health of employees. Employees can take advantage of free COVID-19 tests.

The meeting with the President, Krzysztof Kieres, mainly concerned the issue of the introduction by the European Union of the CBAM border tax mechanism, aimed at preventing the leakage of carbon dioxide production from EU countries and dumping in the production and trade of construction products. Director General of Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o. (at the same time, the Chairman of the Cement Producers Association) together with the Chairman of “Budowlani”, Zbigniew Janowski, highlighted the importance of this mechanism. The mechanism imposes a financial burden on the products imported to the European Union from countries that do not pursue the same climate policy as the European Union, so that their supplies “are not cheaper” than their EU counterparts. This way, the competitive advantage of non-Union countries from the point of view of the industry relocating production outside the Union in order to reduce operating costs is to be removed. As underlined by Zbigniew Janowski, trade unions support the process of implementation of the tax mechanism, as it will enable to save jobs and production in Polish cement plants.



Robert Latos, Zbigniew Janowski and Tomasz Nagórka

The Chairman of “Budowlani” drew attention to the need to reactivate the national section of the “Budowlani” Trade Union, which used to bring together organisations operating in the building materials industry. One of the current objectives of the section would be to monitor the activities of the European Commission and the European Parliament in the field of introducing the CBAM border tax.

Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o. is part of the Buzzi Unicem group, which is a corporation with its registered office in Italy, owns plants in 14 countries and employs more than 10,000 people worldwide.

Dyckerhoff Polska Sp. z o.o. is a producer of high-quality cements, ready-mixed concretes and special products, used in various areas of the construction industry. The production of cement and special products takes place in the Nowiny Cement Plant, located in the town of Nowiny near Kielce. The plant's production capacity is 1.6 million tonnes of cement per year. The company also has a terminal in Warsaw. The production of ready-mixed concrete is carried out in 18 plants located in the southern and central part of Poland.

Tomasz Nagórka