SMART presents its first constitution and ritual

We are pleased, as your general president and transportation division president, to present the first SMART Constitution and ritual to our membership.

This is a milestone for both the former Sheet Metal Workers’ International Association and the United Transportation Union, that have merged to become the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers. While our merger has been complete for some time, this document solidifies this great union and its membership under a single constitution.

It is impossible to speak to the success in completing this constitution without acknowledging both the hard work and the frustration of those who participated in the creation of the document and the membership who have waited patiently throughout this long and difficult process.

The path has led both of us to take positions on interpretation of our separate constitutions and the merger agreement. In getting there, as would be expected of your leadership, we examined and debated every constitutional section thoroughly before agreement. At times, it required the help of an outside arbitrator to clarify a particular issue. While this slowed the process, it must be remembered the parties were tasked with blending 100 years of separate cultural and operational methods into a single constitution that would govern our organization. Throughout this process, both of us have recognized that, in the end, what matters is the importance of having a document that serves the best interests of all the membership of SMART.

So, we are jointly resolved to move forward as an organization under one constitution and ritual, with a single focus. We, as your leadership, are dedicated to working collectively to provide a transparent and accountable organization that will strive to provide fair and reasoned representation to our membership and the efficiency of operation necessary to expand work opportunities for our members.


To view a letter to all delegates attending the 2014 SMART Transportation Division Convention and First SMART International Convention, visit: http://bit.ly/2vnqUpS . (This corrects and replaces the original posting from 1/14/2014.)

To view questions and answers regarding the SMART Convention/Constitution, visit: http://bit.ly/2vmOJhI . (03/18/14)

Fraternally and in solidarity,

Joseph J. Nigro,  
General President

John Previsich,  
President, Transportation Division