

## **SPEEA opens office in London to increase international union ties**



**LONDON** – Wanting to increase ties to labor unions in England and Europe, the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA), IFPTE Local 2001, this week announced the appointment of Kristin Farr as international liaison.

A local of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), SPEEA represents 24,000 engineers, technical and other aerospace professionals at The Boeing Company, Spirit AeroSystems, and other aerospace firms in the United States. Farr previously served as SPEEA legislative director in Seattle, Washington.

“The aerospace industry is global and SPEEA is responding,” Farr said from her new office in Kensington Court. “Europe is an obvious place for SPEEA to have a presence as many of our members at Spirit, Boeing, BAE Systems and Triumph Composite Systems work on and support Airbus and EADS products and services.”

Farr recently moved to England and is working part-time for SPEEA to enhance the union’s international ties and build new alliances with European aerospace unions.

This is the first foreign-based employee for SPEEA. As legislative director, Farr attended a number of foreign conferences. The work included visits to England, Denmark, France and Brazil.

Organized in 1946, SPEEA is presently negotiating with Spirit AeroSystems for economic changes to contracts covering 3,200 engineers, technical and professional workers in Wichita, Kansas. In October, the union begins negotiations with Boeing for 21,000 employees in Washington, Kansas, Oregon, Utah and California.

A local of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), SPEEA also represents aerospace professionals at Triumph Composite Systems, Inc., in Spokane, Wash., and at BAE Systems, Inc. in Irving, Texas.

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