

NEWS RELEASE

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers®
AFL-CIO-CLC

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IBEW Endorses John Kerry for President

WASHINGTON, D.C.—On behalf of the 750,000 members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, President Edwin D. Hill today announced the union's endorsement of Senator John Kerry for President of the United States.

"America needs a leader who will address the pressing needs of working families, especially jobs. John Kerry's long record as a military man and an elected official shows that he has the courage and vision to lead this nation in challenging times," President Hill said at a IBEW Construction Conference attended by approximately one thousand local union leaders.

Rep. Richard Gephardt (D-MO), representing the Kerry campaign, addressed the conference to accept the IBEW's endorsement on behalf of the Massachusetts senator.

President Hill noted that for the past three years, working families have suffered while President Bush has cut taxes for the wealthy and rewarded corporations for taking American jobs overseas.

"It's time for those who built this country to take it back," President Hill said. "A nation that doesn't work for all its citizens no longer deserves to be called the land of opportunity. Working families need the support of a President who values their contributions to American society."

President Hill said the IBEW is already mobilizing its members and resources to an unprecedented degree in preparation for the November elections.

"Our union had chosen not to endorse a candidate earlier in the process. We believed that our unity in November would be the most valuable support we could provide the eventual nominee. Now is the time to stand together to fight for job creation, address the issue of health care and promote balanced economic policies," President Hill said. "John Kerry is the candidate who can lead our nation to a brighter future."

Founded in 1891, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is a 750,000-member union representing workers in utilities, construction, telecommunications, manufacturing, broadcasting, railroads and government.

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