



Brussels and Geneva, 7 November 2018

## **IndustriALL Global Union and industriAll European Trade Union in solidarity with Appledore Shipyard workers**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are writing this letter to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](#) and [industriAll European Trade Union](#), both representing millions of workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in Europe and worldwide, to express our full support and solidarity with the workers of Appledore shipyard in Devon UK.

IndustriALL Global and industriAll Europe were outraged to hear of the closure of the 163-year-old shipyard in the southwest of England on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November. It is a devastating blow for the workers and their families many of whom have worked at the site for generations. It is also a disaster for the local economy of Appledore and Bideford, and inevitably the supply chain companies and the community will be strongly hit by the closure. The loss of the yard is a deep loss to the UK's sovereign shipbuilding capability as well as over 160 years of historic and traditional shipbuilding skills.

IndustriALL Global and industriAll Europe support our affiliate Unite the Union in holding Babcock International to its promise of honour the duty of care to the workforce.

We also support Unite in calling on the UK government to intervene and secure the future of Appledore by lifting the delay to contract the Type 31e Frigate programme and guaranteeing that the Royal Navy's new fleet solid support vessels are designed and block built in yards across the UK.

In solidarity,

**Valter Sanches**  
**General Secretary**  
**IndustriALL Global Union**

**Luc Triangle**  
**General Secretary**  
**IndustriAll European Trade Union**