# Notice of Endangered Status For Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Industry Local 219 Pension Plan

This is to inform you that on July 29, 2008 the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and to the plan sponsor that the plan is in endangered status for the plan year beginning May 1, 2008. Federal law requires that you receive this notice. This is a new law; in the future you will receive an annual update of this status and the progress the Plan is making towards the goals described below.

#### **Endangered Status**

The plan is considered to be in endangered status because the funded percentage is less than 80% threshold established for endangered status. The plan's actuary determined that the plan's funded percentage is 48% on May 1, 2008. The "funded percentage" is the fraction of earned benefits that could be funded with existing Fund assets.

## **Funding Improvement Plan**

Federal law requires pension plans in endangered status to adopt a funding improvement plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the plan. The funding improvement plan requires that the plan's funded percentage improve at least one-third of the way to 100% over the next 10 years. Therefore, the target for this Plan under the law is a funded percentage of 66% by 2019. The plan must also meet the Federal minimum funding requirements during this 10-year period. The funding improvement plan, which will be adopted by the Trustees and then provided to the bargaining parties for final approval, will include the scheduled contribution rate increases of 70¢ per hour effective in June of 2009 and 2010 but will likely require yet additional actions because of asset losses in the 2007-08 plan year.

#### Future Experience and Possible Adjustments

The funding improvement plan is based on a number of assumptions about future experience and may need to be adjusted in the future if such assumptions are not met. Additional contribution rate increases and/or reductions in the rate at which benefits are earned may be needed if the Fund were to suffer asset returns below the expected 8% (in the 2008-09 plan year or later), a drop in the hours worked, or poor experience from other sources. If, at some point in time, the Trustees determine that further adjustments are necessary, you will receive a separate notice identifying and explaining the effect of those changes.

### Commitment to Continued Improvement

With the past and future changes in place, the Trustees anticipate that the Fund will emerge from endangered status and continue to see improved funded percentages. The Trustees maintain their commitment to providing a retirement benefit which you can rely upon to pay a lifetime benefit that will play a significant role in your overall retirement planning.

#### Where to Get More Information

You have a right to receive a copy of the funding improvement plan once it has been formally approved by the bargaining parties. It should be completed by the spring of 2009. To receive a copy, you may contact the Local 219 Fringe Benefit Office at 33 Fitch Boulevard, Austintown, OH, 44515-2202 or by telephone at (800) 435-2388.