

ROOFERS IN THE NEWS

Cincinnati Show Spotlights Union Pride

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Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO*

Cincinnati welcomed the AFL-CIO Union Industries Show with open arms. The crowds were brisk, and after Mayor Mark Mallory joined AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Rich Trumka and other union leaders to cut the ribbon, they surged ahead to take in the 200 displays of union-made products and services.

A full-size Katrina Cottage—a modular home designed and built by Housing International to fit neatly into Gulf Coast architecture—garnered lots of attention from show-goers, as did the United Auto Workers' (UAW) expansive layout of 2007 cars and trucks.

UAW members were on hand to spotlight the latest in automotive technology and products. As Gary Alred of the DaimlerChrysler National Training Center explained, “we brought some of our newest and most exciting vehicles to display, including Kasey Kahne’s NASCAR Dodge.”

The DaimlerChrysler unit gave away a sporty Dodge Caliber to lucky show-goer Marianne Klein of Flint, Michigan—an unemployed hairdresser who volunteered to work the show along with



The Roofers Local 42 banner flies high among the exhibits at the annual Union Industries Show. Photo by Bill Burke, Page One Photography.

her husband who is currently in layoff status from the Lear Corp in Flint.

Union pride was on display in every corner of the massive Duke Energy Center—glass artisans painted collectible pieces, sheet metal workers hammered and snipped on tool boxes they would later raffle, and bricklayers encouraged show-goers to try their hands at trowels and cement.

There were games for kids and a multitude of giveaways for adults—appliances, tires, cars, and not one, but two, motorcycles. The Harley-Davidson cycle, a perennial draw for the show, was joined this year by a customized Harley chopper from Carhartt Clothing.



Local 42 Apprentice Instructor Mike Donnelly, left, and Executive Board Member Bob Savas welcome guests to the Roofers exhibit.



Executive Board Member Matt Hoestman is ready to inform visitors about the advantages of union roofing.



Trade show attendees admire Local 42's mock-up roof display.