



**STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT
RE: DELPHI'S RESTRUCTURING PLAN**

DELPHI RESTRUCTURING HITS MIDDLE CLASS AMERICA HARD

For immediate release, April 4, 2006

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"The plans laid out last week by auto parts giant Delphi should cause dismay to anyone concerned with the plight of middle class Americans.

Delphi's proposals of layoffs, plant closings, and unilaterally voiding union contracts will send thousands of hard-working Americans to the unemployment line. Delphi's low road restructuring makes it the poster child for escalating threat to living manufacturing jobs that have anchored communities in the Midwest for decades.

"It may start with the workers, but it will quickly spread to the businesses they frequent and the community services that their tax dollars support. Many communities will experience significant pain and severe economic dislocations as a result of Delphi's decisions and the negative impact of these closings may well lead to a catastrophic disruption of economic and social life in the impacted communities.

"These challenges will require a tremendous response from those agencies that are charged with helping laid-off workers and affected communities respond. In recent years, the nation's commitment to training and employment programs has flagged despite major challenges presented by the globalizing economy. The Delphi restructuring is a poignant example of the need to do more and do better for families caught up in changes beyond their control.

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