

The Regional PEL Program Content

GOALS

The overall goal of Regional PEL is to provide educational information that will equip UAW represented GM workers, and GM employees with the necessary tools for becoming more knowledgeable and effective in the rapidly changing environment of today's auto industry.

Goals are met by a process of study and discussion which include:

- Fundamental changes taking place in the industry,
- Problems facing both the company and the union,
- The strategic directions GM is pursuing,
- The implications of these changes for the UAW.

TOPICS

The program was designed as an educational experience structured around the following topical issues:

- Historical analysis and economic changes taking place in the industry,
- Development and continued growth of international competition, future trends and implications for UAW and GM,
- The impact of new technology on the future of work and the work place,
- New patterns in labor-management relations throughout the industry,
- Insight as to the significance of the governmental process on the industry.

COURSE OUTLINE

The course outline includes the following components:

- The concept of strategic planning and the history of the auto industry.
- The challenges facing the industry, new competition and future trends.
- The economy and the governmental process. The participants explore the inner-workings of the government with politicians, lobbyists and agency officials.
- The impacts of new technology, work organization and the new trends in labor-management relations throughout the industry.
- The development of a SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis. This facilitates participants taking a long term strategic view of plant and union problems and solutions.
- Local options such as presentations from Local and Regional UAW personnel as well as Plant and Divisional management personnel. Topics would include the basic philosophy and goals of the union, the state of the business and joint activities.