

New collective agreement for Finnish chemical industry

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The bargaining for around 20 000 workers in chemical, oil and petrochemical and plastic industries ended last night with an agreement, already ratified by both the employers and by the Chemical Workers' Union. The agreement in nutshell:

- agreement starts immediately and is valid until 31.1.2010 (2,5 years)
- immediately in June a lump sum of 250-305 euros
- 1.10.2007 3,4%
- 1.9.2008 2,5% plus 0,4% to be negotiated locally
- 1.5.2009 EUR0,25/hour but minimum 2,4% plus 0,4% to be negotiated locally.

This is the first agreement this year negotiated in industries, where agreements end this year, after the employers refused to bargain a centralized agreement.