Dear colleagues,

We have received with great dismay the news of the Infinera management planning on closing the Berlin site and causing more than 400 employees to lose their jobs. This is a huge tragedy not only for workers and their families but for the industrial fabric of Berlin as well. On the Berlin site, optical transmission systems are being produced under good conditions and at top standard of modern high technology.

Infinera belongs to an American investor. The Berlin site has seen various changes in ownership in the last few years. This includes Siemens, Siemens Nokia, and Coriant. The multiple sales caused lots of changes and turmoil for employees. Now, as of September 30, the site is supposed to be closed and production to be relocated to other countries.

We, the Migration Committee at IG Metall, are deeply disturbed by this news, as we feel connected to our colleagues at the Berlin Infinera site. Many workers at Infinera have immigrant roots. Especially for employees working at the production facilities, the closing poses a threat to their livelihoods, as there are no alternative offers on the Berlin job market. This means an impending social decline for workers.

The IG Metall Berlin Migration Committee strongly condemns the Infinera management’s decision to close the Berlin site. Their greed for profit and their apathy towards their employees is a disgrace. All colleagues, at the site and beyond, are called to resist. Only together, as members of IG Metall, will we be able to oppose the management and their plan to relocate. We, the Migration Committee, support our friends, our colleagues at Infinera in their struggle.

In solidarity

The IG Metall Berlin Migration Committee