

RMT cleaners on ISS refuse to book on using biometric machines.



Station staff: support the cleaners' action!

RMT has been involved in a long-running dispute over the use of fingerprinting for booking on which the union believes is a fundamental attack on civil liberties and designed to completely dehumanise the workplace while threatening jobs through automation in the drive for increased profits.

Members at ISS were balloted for action on this issue and voted overwhelmingly YES. As a result staff have been instructed to take action short of a strike by refusing to use the fingerprinting machines and instead to use the established method for booking on.

From an RMT press release, 16th June

- ISS cleaners in RMT are taking part in official industrial action by refusing to book on via biometric machines.
- RMT cleaners are instead instructed to book on using the 'autophone' and to sign in with the station supervisor as normal.

UPDATE!

On Monday 16th June, the day the biometric machines were switched on, **cleaners on the Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly Lines refused to book on using the machines and used autophones instead.**

ISS tried intimidation tactics, such as threatening to send home and not pay cleaners who refused to touch the machines. But RMT members followed union instructions to remain at the workplace.

As a result of their firm stance, ISS has now confirmed that every cleaner who attended work on Monday and Tuesday will be paid. ISS has also agreed to allow cleaners to book on using the autophone until Monday 23rd June. It has agreed to meet with the RMT at ACAS over this issue. **The action is already having an effect!**

From 23rd June, ISS has said cleaners will have to book on using the biometric booking on machines. We need to keep giving support to cleaners, encouraging them to refuse biometric booking on. **If we keep the pressure on, ISS will delay if not abandon its plans.**

Defend our human rights!



Biometric booking on machines have been installed on every Jubilee, Northern and Piccadilly Line station and depot where cleaners book on on. They use our unique data to determine who we are. Biometric data is also used by the Home Office for immigration records. ISS has told the RMT that it would share biometric information with the Home Office if requested. It is unnecessary for an employer to hold and share this data; it is an infringement on our human rights.

How does 'biometric booking on' affect LU staff?

Cleaners today, LU staff tomorrow!

If this technology proves effective, it could be used by LU and other contractors. Manufacturers of biometric booking on machines boast, 'Biometrics has been used effectively for more than a decade for time and attendance and workforce management'. It's used in many organisations and could be used for us.

Protecting our jobs!

With 'permit access' and talk of swipe cards instead of keys for contractors, we know that LU is increasing automation for booking on. LU is striving for a network with fewer supervisors, booking on contractors remotely.

LU is persisting with plans to remove night turn supervisors altogether.

The total automation of biometric booking on suits LU's plans to remove jobs.

How can station staff support cleaners' action?

1. Recruit cleaners to the RMT and inform them of their right to take part in RMT's official industrial action.
2. If ISS tries to send cleaners home, remind ISS that our stations need cleaners! RMT heard some reports that some station supervisors assisted ISS in attempting to remove cleaners who refused to book on with the biometric machines. But we should not be getting involved in ISS' booking on procedures.
3. If ISS sends agency staff to cover for cleaners it has sent home, check their LUCAS card carefully. Are the cleaners familiarised?
4. If your station gets dirty from lack of cleaners, you can raise plenty of jobs. A lack of handsoap or toilet paper means an instant £500 fine for ISS.
5. Is it safe to use the biometric machines? RMT has seen some machines that are in store cupboards with no lighting, and others that are in water-filled rooms.

"Agency staff? Are you familiarised?"

If ISS sends cleaners home and sends agency staff instead, check whether agency staff are familiarised.....

Where is the SAP and RVP?

Where is the bin room?

Where is the nearest hospital?

Where is the first aid kit?

Where is the dirty water disposal point?

Do you understand the colour coding for mops and buckets?

Is the agency cleaner qualified to take the place of an RMT member taking industrial action?

Every Job Matters! The campaign continues.

Join our day of campaigning. Meet us on Thursday 26th June, midday, Tower Hill station.

Please come to the Stations and Revenue Grades Meeting, where RMT station members can discuss issues and plan campaigns. 1630, 26th June, at the Exmouth Arms, near Euston. For more information, contact Becky on 07734364302.