

"UP IN THE AIR"

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT - April 23, 2009

TO: St. Louis & Missouri Movie Teamsters

As we near the end of the shoot for "Up In the Air" in St. Louis I simply can not move forward to any other city without stopping and expressing on behalf of the company and myself, our sincere gratitude for the effort put forth by the local teamsters.

Having shot in over 35 states over the years, during the production of over 250 films I must say the movie drivers from this area can hold their head high as they rank among the best in the country. We have been given the opportunity to work with both seasoned motion-picture drivers and rookie movie drivers, as are many films, and not unlike a great sports team, the result has been a cohesive effort and an exceptional performance. What makes a good movie driver isn't the experience of 30, 40 or even 60 films, though that certainly contributes... but for those less experienced it can be only one film, with the sincere intent to listen, learn, and react with a positive attitude as have some of these men and women.

Well, St. Louis is certainly a winning team and I wish to say thank you to the St. Louis local movie Captain and drivers for a truly exceptional job. We will pass the word in Los Angeles to the studios and film companies that Missouri is indeed one of those rare "gems" and a fantastic place to film for many reasons: the locations, proximity to equipment, the airline support, but most importantly... the people. As we end this film, we have fortunately and undoubtedly begun life-long relationships, with our fellow co-workers, but most importantly families... and now friends. I do hope we all have the opportunity in the future to pass this way again.

It has been a very long time since I sat down to write a letter such as this and a very rare instance that I do so especially with our demanding schedule and lack of time. But I am writing this note because my appreciation can not be nor should be expressed in a mere hand-shake or a passing thank you. The written word, although electronic today, can be saved, printed and re-read, and over time the appreciation becomes lasting and permanent. So please print this for each and every driver to read.

A movie is of course a job, but too, a small part of everyone's life. I wish you all well in the ongoing quest of film production in Missouri, with your respective careers, and I reciprocally extend my hand of generosity toward you as you have to us and offer anything that we too may do to improve your lives as you have improved ours.

Respectfully,

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