

# ON GRIDLOCK AND REMOTE OFFICES

Dear Uline Customers,

A very long time ago I got my driver's license. Like all teenagers this to me was thrilling. I enjoyed driving to Chicago's O'Hare airport to pick up my Dad. In those days I could park the car in front of the terminal and walk down to the gate to get him. As I said, this was a very long time ago.

Fast forward to today. Our highways are clogged and gridlock seems to be everywhere. They'll tow your car at Chicago O'Hare in less than two minutes. Believe it!

This has resulted in nagging issues at Uline:

- **Remote Employees:** Who gets to work at home? How often do these employees come to the office?
- **Security:** For all these laptops which can and have been stolen. Accounted for and secure enough?
- **Remote Offices:** To accommodate those who would like to work at Uline but wish to live elsewhere.

If a company is to attract a workforce, especially to replace Baby Boomers, do you put an office in the city for the younger folk? Do warehouses go further into more rural areas for employees who want more affordable housing?

In very heated conversations at Uline comments come up such as:

- "How can a person be a manager and decide when they're coming in to manage their department? What is this??"*
- "If we move into rural areas, our vendors may have to charge more because our warehouses would be so far away."*
- "Uline is a wonderful company. People choose to live where they want. But that's their responsibility."*

We're really struggling with this issue. What are other companies thinking about doing? We'd like to hear from you.

2007 is here. So is gridlock and traffic.

- Liz Uihlein



# THE CASE FOR THE TEARDROP



Every summer Dick and I seem to have a little plan. This year we plan to purchase a Teardrop Trailer.

Before motels existed, these were popular. You can tow them easily behind your car. They store easily in a garage. Aren't they the coolest looking?

I'm very excited about getting one of these. I think the grandchildren will have a ball "sleeping out" in the trailer. Dick is far less enthusiastic but nevertheless...