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## **Brazil: Santos Dockworkers Launch 24-hour Strike**

*by Barbara Khol*

*Category/Department: General*

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On Oct. 1, Marcia de Azevedo, spokesperson for the Santos Stevedores Union, said most activities at the country's largest port were paralyzed by a 24-hour "warning strike" staged by 10,000 stevedores. She added, "If there is no progress in wage talks, then another strike, this time set to last indefinitely, could begin Oct. 9." A spokesperson for the Santos Port Authority said most activities at the port had been shut down, with 31 ships at anchor. De Azevedo said stevedores were demanding a 290% wage increase to compensate for inflation. The 10,500 member Dock Workers Union is also demanding an across-the-board wage hike of 20,000 cruzeiros per month (about US\$239). Union leaders said they plan to commence an indefinite strike beginning Oct. 9. (Basic data from Knight-Ridder Financial, 10/01/90)

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