



Queensland Branch News



15th December 2014

BRANCH MONTHLY MEETING

The Branch Monthly Meetings historically held on the last Tuesday of the month is normally shifted to an alternate Tuesday in December. This year, due to a number of factors the final Branch Monthly meeting will be held as follows:

Friday 19th December - 0900 at the Union Office

At the conclusion of the meeting, there will be a UMLA Meeting to map out activities in the New Year. There shall be a BBQ and refreshments following the meetings as mentioned.

CHRISTMAS WISHES

The Branch Executive would like to take the opportunity to wish all members and their families a Merry Christmas and a safe festive season. We would like to thank Delegates and our Office staff for their ongoing dedication.

Over the Christmas/New Year period, the Union Office will be open at 8.00am and **close at 1230pm**

Wednesday	24 th December 2014
Monday	29 th December
Tuesday	30 th December
Wednesday	31 st December
Friday	2 nd January 2015

Please note the Maritime, Mining and Power Credit Union will close at 12.30pm on the same days.

During the Christmas-New Year period, Branch Officials can be contacted on their mobiles.

UNION DUES

Members should have received correspondence in relation to Union dues as a result of National Council decision and subsequent endorsement at the Annual General meetings.

At the October National Council, it was decided to form a Committee to review MUA contribution rates and the brackets. Further the Branch conducts regular reviews to ascertain if non-salaried waterside workers at each enterprise are in the appropriate bracket. The process is currently being undertaken by the Branch and will extend to early 2015.

D.P. WORLD

Members who are not engaged at DP World may have seen the current Enterprise Agreement negotiations being played out in the media.

The last meeting date on a national level was Wednesday 5th November and was followed with correspondence being sent to DP World National Management on 16th November 2014 by Assistant National Secretary W. Smith in the form of an offer of settlement.

When sufficient time had passed, the MUA "pressed" DP World for a response; further meeting dates were also sought.

On 8th December DP World, Chief Operating Officer Mr Mark Hulme responded with an offer "Part A" No.8.

It was essentially an ultimatum, (the MUA had already notified Protected Industrial Action) seeking a response by 9th December with a rejection or non-reply to the document leading to DP World Management making application to the Fair Work Commission. That application has been made with a Directions Hearing at 1500 hours on 15th December 2014.

The Queensland Branch has informed DP World Brisbane Management of Protected Industrial Action for Wednesday 17th December in the form of 3-8 hour stoppages, commencing day shift, in relation to Part A matters.

DP World sent correspondence informing of Employer Response Action in the form of a lockout. This was followed by a phone call from a National Management saying that vessels would be sub-contracted and contracts may be at risk.

Well, we assert that they are at risk because of Management. We have indicated a willingness to meet – **they refuse**.

Further all members of DP World and Patrick know full well that 30 odd vessels have been sub-contracted because of DP World Management decisions. A decision to go to the Automated Terminal on 28th April 2014 – **why?** seems that DP World wanted to get rid of labour costs !!!

The MUA continually advocated for a trial period to ascertain ongoing required numbers, outrightly **rejected** by DP World.

The enacted 96 redundancies and now are recruiting casuals !!

Some of the nasties in DP World's offer are:

- attacks on penalty rates; will not agree to place them in the EA - both competitors have all Penalty Rates included.
- 7 day allocation – labour orders on Saturday for Sunday.
- No section criteria re the Agreement.

DP World would be better served by having a focus on providing an agreement that has recognition of appropriate terms of employment.

Our members have left no stone unturned in Brisbane to try and make the Terminal as efficient as possible. Their achievement not only goes unrecognised by National movement, but that same Management kicks "sand in their face".

Members at DP World will receive regular updates of matters associated with their Enterprise Agreement.

TOWAGE CHANGES

The Branch has received advice that PB Towage has been acquired by SMIT Lamnalco:

- 1) Pacific Basin entire shareholding in PB Towage Australia, includes all its harbour towage operations and 16 harbour Tugs.
- 2) Two additional assets (one harbour tug and one barge) currently owned by other PB Companies.

The transaction is expected to complete in January 2015 and will constitute the sale of Pacific Basin's entire harbour towage assets and activities.

About PB Towage

PB Towage (Pacific Basin) is the second largest Towage provider in the country and is one of the world's largest owners and operators of Handysize and Handymax dry berth vessels. The Company is listed and headquartered in Hong Kong and currently operates in two main maritime sectors under the banners of Pacific Basin Dry Bulk and PB Towage.

SMIT Lamnalco

Is a leading international provider of Towage and Marine Services to the Oil and Gas Industry. They are active in over 30 countries.

Members will be kept up to date with the situation, as it changes.
