

## ACTIVE STRONG UNITED

### QANTAS ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

After 12 months of intense campaigning and heated negotiations ASU members working for Australia's biggest airline have finally reached agreement over their wages and conditions.

The new Qantas agreement, which covers over 7000 employees, delivers the best wages outcome seen by workers for the last decade with no trade-offs. It also provides greater job security for workers exposed to the threats of technology change and off shoring.

The outcome is a direct result of the unrelenting pressure ASU members placed on Qantas. The flying kangaroo faced an organised membership who were ready to walk in support of better wages and conditions. With such a great outcome ASU members now turn their attention to building on this solidarity locally so that the next EBA goes even further in improving the wages and conditions of these 7000 workers.



### INTERNATIONAL NEWS



Air Canada workers have returned to work after the Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW) and Air Canada reached what they described as a 'tentative' agreement that will increase wages for the affected personnel. Further negotiations on pensions will follow. CAW president Ken Lewenza has told the ITF that he considers the tentative deal is a fair agreement, and has thanked all the ITF's aviation unions for their support.

In other international news the British union, Unite, and British Airways have reached an agreement to resolve the long-running cabin crew dispute at the airline.

The agreement is to be put to a ballot of Unite cabin crew members over the next month, with a union recommendation for acceptance. In the meantime, the union has decided not to call any industrial action at the airline based on its present ballot mandate. This comes after Union members faced a long hard road in negotiations which began in October 2009.

### QANTAS COURIERS

Union members at Qantas Couriers are readily preparing to begin negotiations on their first EBA. Up until now these members have been on the Modern Award with substandard pay and conditions. These negotiations will be held with Qantas, the ASU and the TWU. So far no meetings have been held as Qantas has as yet refused to recognise the ASU in these negotiations.

Members are ready to negotiate and the ASU is currently in discussions with Qantas to determine why the ASU has not been invited to the negotiations meetings, when there are clearly members doing ASU defined roles.



## UNITED AIRLINES NEGOTIATIONS

Staff at United Airlines have commenced negotiating their next Enterprise Agreement to cover both staff based in the Sydney office and employees working at the Sydney and Melbourne International Terminals. The negotiating team have met with United and have put forward their log of claims detailing what they would like to receive in their next EBA. Staff at United have asked for a number of things, including a 5% pay rise for each year of the agreement, paid meal breaks and increases to the paid parental leave and redundancy provisions.

Negotiations are continuing for staff at United Airlines and members are keen to hear United's responses to the items included in the Log of Claims.

## MENZIES AVIATION NEGOTIATIONS

The National Negotiating Team (NNT) and your Union have had five meetings with Menzies Aviation to negotiate the new Enterprise Agreement. During the process, the NNT has put forward their Log of Claims and have had some progress in regard to the pay cycle and how this affects members at Menzies. The pay offer of 5% has been knocked back and an offer of 2% has been proposed. This offer is less than even CPI which is at 3.3%.

The ongoing issues with staff ratios and rostering practices are being dealt with by Union members on a local level. The negotiations process continues in Melbourne.

## PHOTO ID BEFORE YOU FLY

PASSENGERS may be required to produce photo identification before boarding domestic flights as part of the biggest recommended overhaul of airport and maritime security since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the US.

The recommendation is contained in a report just released by the parliamentary joint committee on law enforcement into the failure of existing security measures to combat organised crime in the aviation and maritime sectors.

The committee's recommendations will provoke a strong reaction from some unions, which have argued increased screening of workers may breach civil liberties, and from airlines angry that the recommendations, if implemented, will cause major delays at boarding gates.

Qantas is one airline believed to have argued against the mandatory use of photo ID, claiming that elderly people, infants and people who don't have a driver's licence might not be able to meet requirements. If these recommendations are accepted it may challenge the increased use of self check in terminals that ASU members across the country have been fighting against.



## HELP DEVELOP AN ASBESTOS FREE FUTURE

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Send donations to: Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA - Level 3, 377-383 Sussex Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000



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