



2 JULY 2021

# OFFSHORE UPDATE

## M U A W A B R A N C H

Comrades,

This update covers off the current EBA negotiations, the passing of Tony Vial, and much more.

### GO OFFSHORE - EBA UPDATE

The ballot results came in earlier this week. The Go Offshore membership has returned a 93% Yes vote to all 5 questions. To be clear, only 1 member voted against taking action.

A massive congrats to those members who Voted Yes!

We have also had various reports that Go Offshore has been struggling to find workers willing to be engaged on their vessels via a labour-hire company. We suspect those offered employment were not prepared to be Strike Breakers. MUA members have said NO to GO!

Once again, this is a significant outcome and positive step in being able to achieve a union-backed EBA!

### THIS IS WHERE THINGS GET INTERESTING....

Since we filed to be able to take action, the company put an offer to us that was half okay - #note "half" okay.

They have partly addressed the Scope/Coverage clause but have conveniently left out key components, such as run jobs and other times not specifically identified in their proposal.

Amongst other claims, the company has not addressed the single Agreement, so that it only covers off on Ratings, Cooks & Stewards.

Some positive steps forward have been taken, however, we are not where we need to be just yet.

### NEXT STEPS...

Go Offshore have indicated that they will be releasing a proposed document to be voted on by all Go Offshore Employees. This will likely take place next week and this Agreement will include the Officers and Engineers. When they do release that agreement, **we will be seeking a strong NO Vote from our members** and asking the Officers and Engineers to **Vote NO** as well.

Both the AMOU and the AIMPE are also supporting a **No Vote** should the company release an agreement covering off all departments.

There are good reasons for this.

1. The MUA does not represent the Officers and Engineers (jointly known as "Nautilus"). Likewise, they do not represent us.
2. Their joint numbers could potentially outweigh our numbers. What that means is when the time comes to vote, either this time (or in future EBAs) Nautilus could strip our conditions to better their members.

**SHOULD GO OFFSHORE RELEASE A NON-UNION EBA,  
WE WILL BE ASKING OUR MEMBERS TO VOTE AND VOTE NO.**

Our next bargaining meeting with the company is scheduled for 13 July. Following that meeting, we will be providing a full report back to those members and if we have not moved significantly, we will be asking our members to approve protected action.

If the members at Go Offshore have not yet received details to participate in that meeting, they should contact me directly.



**WE NEED ALL GO OFFSHORE MEMBERS INVOLVED IN THAT REPORT**



Whilst we are in a good position, we still ask that the membership remain vigilant and once again ask – if any casual who is being engaged to work on a Go Offshore Vessel with a manning agent could contact the WA Branch and speak with either Jack McCabe or myself before accepting that job.

## DOF & MMA NEGOTIATIONS

The negotiations are set to continue again with Dof next week. We have been made aware that the company has recently been visiting many of the Dof vessels across their fleet.

Part of the Dof roadshow has involved the promotion of a single agreement, similar to Go Offshore, covering off on all departments. All three Unions maintain their position for all companies regarding this subject.

Dof has also made an underpayment to the Cooks that may have been reported. In any event, we have spoken with Dof and they will be ensuring that any underpayments are being addressed as necessary.

In the coming weeks, Will Tracey and I will be seeking to meet with Dave Ross and Jamie Hulme from MMA. These discussions will be focused on the intentions of MMA, and we will begin to structure an agreed path forward for the upcoming EBA negotiations.

Whilst we are dealing with Go Offshore and Dof, we are not in any rush to enter into another negotiation. In any event, the MMA membership will be updated as soon as we know more.



## VALE ANTHONY (TONY) VIAL

By now, many of you would be aware that Tony Vial passed away onboard the Far Seeker mid-last week. Tony has been a long-standing and active member of the MUA for many years.

Should members or vessels wish to contribute towards Tony's family, please put funds into this account:

Newcastle Branch Special Purpose account:  
BSB: 882:000  
A/c # 25111 (unity Bank S1)  
A/c name: Pt Newcastle Special Purpose  
A/c Ref: 'Vessel/ Person name' Tony Vial



*May Tony Vale R.I.P.*  
**SMOOTH SAILINGS COMRADE**

# GO OFFSHORE MEMBERS VOTED **YES TO ACTION!**



## **MORE POWER TO THE WORKERS!**

### **HUNTERLINK CONTACT POINT**

There has been a heap going on in many of our lives. Lockdowns continue to pester our normal daily events and can be difficult for individuals.

If any member is doing it tough for any reason, do not think twice about making the call - get in touch with Hunterlink now! They can be contacted by phone 24/7 at 1800 554 654

If members can please print off the attached Hunterlink Poster and put it up on their notice boards it would be greatly appreciated.







## UNION DUES

Through the Dec 2019 Offshore Commission, the members moved that any member onboard an Oil and Gas vessel must be on Grade 14 for the period that they are on board and their accrued leave.

Members are reminded to contact the branch to ensure that their dues have been adjusted before joining a vessel.

There have been various members join vessels who have not be on the right grade, until financial checks are sent through. Once again, great work by the vessel delegates in sending through the vessels crew lists.

### In Unity

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**“Australian Democracy was built on Civil Disobedience”**

**Maritime Union of Australia | WA BRANCH**

**Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union**

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