

MUA Safety Alert

May 2014



MUA flags massive escalation of Waterfront Safety Campaign

MUA members are mourning yet another tragedy, with the death this week of father of three Anthony Attard, killed doing his job on board the Toll ro-ro vessel *Tasmanian Achiever*. Anthony's brother and best friend were with him when he died.

The MUA officials, staff and members express our deepest condolences to Anthony's family, friends and workmates.

Anthony was greatly respected by his workmates, and a proud member of the MUA. Anthony was a delegate and a representative on the EBA committee in the workplace. He was a family man and comrade to all.

Members united

Assistant National Secretary Warren Smith, National Safety Officer Matt Goodwin and Victorian Branch Assistant Secretary Robert Patchett spent several days on the job supporting and working with members in the aftermath of this tragedy.

The way the workers at Toll have rallied together, united, and supported each other, is a credit to each and every one of them. The wharfies and seafarers at Toll are a class act, there's no two ways about it.



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Members United

The HSRs and delegates at Toll have shown enormous strength of character.

With support from the union, the HSRs have uncovered a range of serious gaps that require immediate attention before work can safely resume.

Serious issues at Toll include lack of a decent traffic management plan, lack of a dedicated spotter and flagman to coordinate the safe movement of people and vehicles on and off the vessel, lack of commitment to training by Toll, no person in charge at certain times of day, no proper toolbox meetings, no proper post-incident investigation processes, inadequate radios and communication systems, lack of respect or consultation with HSRs, who play a vital role in safety, too much pedestrian movement through the ro-ro operation, workers being required to work alone in cargo care and deck operations.

With the unity and support of the workforce, we are working through each and every safety issue, to make sure no other family ever has to suffer this tragedy, ever again.

These are not 'accidents'. Safety must be Law.

This latest tragedy highlights why we must fight to make sure that safety is mandatory. There is a safety crisis in stevedoring. These tragedies are not 'accidents'. There are causes. That's why we need regulation.

Since he was elected, Tony Abbott has dismantled safety regulation. The Abbott Government has blocked our Stevedoring Code of Practice, and twelve other life-saving codes of practice, which they describe as 'red tape'.

This is an attack on working people. No different to the attacks on pensioners, students, schools, and hospitals.

Now, the Abbott government has instructed AMSA to begin dismantling Marine Order 32, the safety bible for wharves for over 80 years. This is a disgrace and will worsen the carnage.

Safety must be law. We need stronger regulation now.

Massive escalation of Waterfront Safety Campaign

Members are advised to prepare for a massive escalation of our Waterfront Safety Campaign.

The union is holding a **National Bulk and General Safety Conference on 18-19 June** in Sydney, with representation from all bulk and general and ro-ro operations, to chart out the direction of the campaign.

Enough is enough. Safety is in crisis. No more deaths on the waterfront.

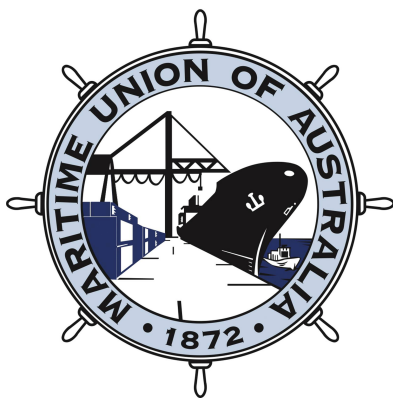
Fund for the Attard Family

Anthony is survived by his wife and three children. The union is committed to make sure that everything possible is done to support and assist the family now and into the future.

The Victorian Branch has established a fund to provide for their future security. Rolling funds and individual members are encouraged to contribute.

If from MMPCU: Sick & Accident Fund, Acc No. 24093 S2. If coming from another bank: BSB 802 884 Acc No 100040459.

The Victorian Branch has set up a fund for the Attard family. Rolling funds and individuals are encouraged to contribute. If donating from MMPCU: Sick & Accident Fund, Acc No. 24093 S2. If coming from another bank: BSB 802 884, Acc No 100040459.



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