

FAIR WORK COMMISSION

MELBOURNE

MATTER; AM2014/93

s.156 – 4 yearly review of modern awards

Group 1C – Vehicle Manufacturing, Repair, Services and Retail Award 2010

SUBMISSION OF MOTOR TRADES ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION OF EMPLOYERS

1. The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (hereinafter referred to as MTAQ) is the employer body which represents the industrial relations interests of businesses within the vehicle manufacturing, repair, services and retail sections of the automotive industry in Queensland.
2. MTAQ is a federally registered organisation under the Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009 and has approximately 1700 members.
3. While no previous submissions have been made by MTAQ in this matter, we have been closely monitoring the developments throughout the award review process and have been supportive of the previous submissions made by the Motor Trades Organisations.
4. The purpose of this submission is to indicate our strong support for the submissions made by the Motor Trades Organisations - particularly in relation to their opposition to the proposed removal of the **manufacturing** provisions from the Vehicle Manufacturing Repair Services and Retail Award 2010.
5. We note that neither the union nor employer parties to this award have indicated any support for the proposal by the Full Bench of the Fair Work Commission to excise the manufacturing provisions from the current award.
6. If this Full Bench was to proceed with its proposed intention it would both over-ride the stated preference of the parties to retain the manufacturing provisions in the award and would over-rule a previous Full Bench decision in 2009 to **include** manufacturing provisions in this award.
7. The current composition of the award has served the industry well since its inception and the removal of a significant section of the award would generate confusion for those businesses involved in manufacturing of caravans and farm machinery components in particular.
8. One of the stated intentions of the Modern Award process was to simplify award provisions and to ensure, as far as possible, single award coverage for industry sectors.

9. MTAQ is unaware of any confusion among its members with the existing structure of the award and would argue that to now make the proposed change would jeopardise the certainty that has resulted from over 5 years' experience with the existing structure.
10. We therefore respectfully urge the Full Bench not to proceed with its proposal to excise the manufacturing provisions of the award.
11. MTAQ does not intend to make a formal appearance at the next hearing of this matter on the 23rd and 24th May but would ask that our submission be taken into account along with those of the other parties.

Lodged by;

Mr Ted Kowalski,

Manager Industrial Relations,

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

11th May 2016