



# QUEENSLAND BRANCH NEWS

NEWSLETTER of the QLD Branch of the MARITIME UNION of AUSTRALIA

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To be truly radical is to make hope possible, rather than despair convincing - Raymond Williams No. 124 - 29 March 2018

## National Stevedoring Code of Practice - RTM Weipa - RTM Twarra - CFMMEU to Have a Say MUA Support at XXXX Rally - Pacific Garbage Patch - Mammoth Ore Carriers Patrick's Lockout 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event

### The Aims and Objectives of the National Stevedoring Code of Practice to be Implemented in Queensland

ON WEDNESDAY, DR Simon Blackwood, Deputy Director-General of the Office of Industrial Relations

wrote to me about the above becoming a part of the WH&S Act in Queensland. The Branch appreciated Simon's Department and the great support Minister Grace Grace has had in getting this implemented in Queensland.

The Branch would particularly acknowledge the rank and file members and officers and officials of the union who were active in lobbying governments to get this up.

However, it would be remiss of me if I did not mention the particular outstanding work of our Assistant National Secretary, Warren Smith in seeing this Code being rolled out nationally. Warren worked night and day on this, through seemingly insurmountable resistance from governments and employers to get this through. Well done Waz! There will be meetings held all around Queensland ports with regards to the implantation of this Code. *Bob Carnegie*

### Subject: Implementation of the Stevedoring Code

Dear Bob,

You will recall we discussed the implementation of the national model Managing Risks in Stevedoring Code of Practice in Queensland at the Branch Meeting of the Maritime Union of Australia on 27 February.

I am pleased to be able to advise you that the Minister for Education and Minister for Industrial Relations has approved the *Managing Risks in Stevedoring Code of Practice 2018* (Stevedoring Code) to commence on 31

March 2018 as an approved code of practice under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. The code provides practical guidance on managing work health and safety risks associated with stevedoring.

The Stevedoring Code was developed to address the high

rate of serious workplace injuries in the stevedoring industry. While there has been a decline in the overall rate of serious claims in the stevedoring industry over the period 2003-04 to 2012-13, the national rate of serious injury in the

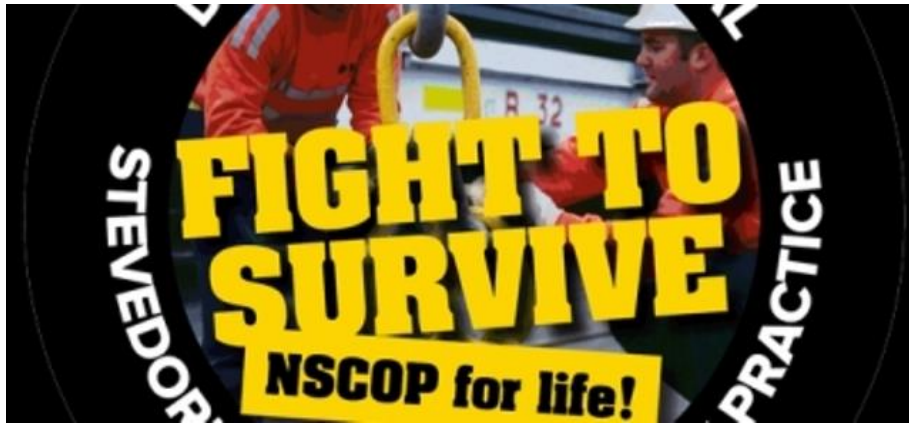
stevedoring industry is more than three times the average rate for all industries and more than twice the rate of the transport, postal and warehousing or construction industry. The *Managing Risks in Stevedoring Code of Practice* was approved by Work Health and Safety Ministers as a model code under harmonised work health and safety legislation.

In March 2017 the Queensland Parliament extended the terms of reference of the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis (CWP) Select Committee from coal mine workers to include other workers, including coal port terminal workers involved in the handling and transportation of coal. Adoption of the Stevedoring Code was recommended by the Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Select Committee, under its extended terms of reference.

Information, including a copy of the new code, can be found on the Work Safe website at [www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice).

Regards

Dr Simon Blackwood  
Deputy Director-General  
Office of Industrial Relations



Authorised by Bob Carnegie, Maritime Union of Australia (MUA) Queensland Branch Secretary

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## ASP Rio Tinto EBA Gets Full Endorsement by the Crew of the RTM Weipa

TUESDAY SAW A ship board meeting take place where the members of the Weipa raised questions and sort clarification on what this Agreement means for them.



The crew thanks the Branch for their hard work and in particular, Jason Miners for his efforts in addressing all the key concerns put forward by the ship.

The crew were surprised with the positive advances made in the agreement given the current climate around Australian shipping.

This Agreement sees the members put their best foot forward in difficult circumstances as we campaign for more tonnage on our coast.

*In solidarity - RTM Weipa MUA Crew*

## RTM Twarra

AS AN EXTENSION of the special meeting conducted on the 22 March 2018 at anchor, the crew of the RTM Twarra would like to pass on their full endorsement of the EBA negotiations conducted between ASP and the MUA.



Both swings have voted unanimously in favour of the EBA which exceeded our expectations given most other blue water areas are struggling to hold on to what they have got.

Mark Sheehan thanked the work of all the boys involved in the outcome and Matt Richardson put a motion to the floor thanking the Queensland Branch and Jason Miners for his efforts over the past two years of negotiations. The motion was seconded by Mike Sheehan and unanimously endorsed. The crew moved a further motion to donate to the RIO Tinto shipping campaign which enjoyed full support of the members.

*In unity - MUA RTM Twarra Crew*

## Patrick's Lockout 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

ALL MEMBERS ARE invited to attend this important event being held at your union rooms on 6 April 2018. There will be good food, wine, drinks, raffles, live music and more. Outstanding speakers on the night including retired Branch Organiser, Jeff Langdon, National Secretary, Paddy Crumlin, QCU Secretary, Ros McLennan and Peter Ong, State Secretary of the ETU.

All the Branch asks is that you give the administration staff a call on 07 3395 7215 for catering purposes. It promises to be a night of remembering a tough time but also celebrating our very existence as a union.



# Invitation

Join your Branch in recognising a workers' Victory!  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1998 Patrick's Lockout.



**In attendance**  
MUA National Secretary - Paddy Crumlin  
QCU General Secretary - Ros McLennan  
ETU State Secretary - Peter Ong  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 from 4pm  
M.U.A. Rooms 73 Southgate Avenue Cannon Hill

Entertainment - Bands, drinks, good food and good times!

Get in early and RSVP for catering purposes!  
You MUST email your acceptance to [muaqld@mua.org.au](mailto:muaqld@mua.org.au)  
or call the Office on 3395-7215

## Super-Union to "Have A Say" in Country's Future: CFMMEU Secretary

Sourced from: <https://www.workplaceexpress.com.au>

*This is an article which gives an outlook of our newly merged union the CFMMEU from the newly merged union's National Secretary, Michael O'Connor's perspective as well as some poison from a section of one of the employer's associations.*

*In my dealings with fellow worker, Michael O'Connor I have found Michael to be a deep thinking strategist, who deeply and genuinely cares about not only his members but the working class generally. He is a thoroughly decent hard working worker's representative. Bob Carnegie*



THE HEAD OF the newly-merged CFMMEU, Michael O'Connor, says the mega-union will work "slowly and carefully" through the early days of creating the new organisation.

Speaking in the lead-up to the merger taking effect today, the national secretary argued that some of the reaction from the Turnbull Government and employer groups was "clearly overblown and ridiculous".

O'Connor said the aim of the merger was simply to create a "more effective voice and a more effective organisation".

"If they're worried because they think that we will be a more effective voice for fairness, a more effective voice for social justice, a more effective voice for workers' right and human rights, yeah, they should be worried," O'Connor told *Workplace Express*.

"We will be a better campaigning organisation, because when you bring the culture of the MUA and its history and its experience, and you add to the TCFUA with its struggles dealing with a whole range of different industries, and you put that together with the CFMEU and its history and its past and what it can bring – when you put those three organisations together, we're pretty confident that's going to create a new organisation that will be more effective for working people."

The Turnbull Government last night gave up trying to win support for legislation to impose a public interest test on union mergers, meaning the amalgamation of the CFMEU, MUA and TCFU will today proceed as scheduled.

Workplace Minister Craig Laundy said last night the government had "reached out" to the Senate crossbench to see if they would support the [Ensuring Integrity Bill](#) (see [Related Article](#)).

"Unfortunately, we did not get the numbers to secure passage of this important legislation," the Minister said.

"This new super union will cover key Australian industries across the economy – mining, construction, shipping, energy, forestry and manufacturing – around 16% of the economy.

"99 per cent of exports are transported by ship.

"To suggest this merger should not be covered by a public interest test is beyond me.

"It is now up to the union officials to work co-operatively and within the law to ensure the best interests of all its members and the country are represented under the new arrangements."

However, two employers groups, the Australian Mines and Metals Association and the MBA, have appealed the Fair Work Commission's decision to approve the merger, which will be heard by a full bench on April 9.

A spokesperson for the ABCC said today that the merger was not a matter for the construction watchdog to comment on. "The ABCC will continue to investigate and enforce compliance with the law in the construction industry."

For his part, O'Connor dismisses the calls for the merged entity to moderate its behaviour.

"We believe that our behaviour is consistent with the aspirations of our members and we will do and take what necessary steps we need to do to advance the interests of workers, their families and the communities we represent," said O'Connor.

"We do that, hopefully, in a constructive manner, and being criticised by a Minister of this government, quite frankly, won't sway what we do or don't do because this government has demonstrated over the years it's been elected that they have no concern for working people.

"It must be one of the worst governments we've seen when it comes to the advancing the interests of this country and our community. "So, you know, who's this bloke again?"

### MUA Rally for XXXX Workers



GREAT TO SEE MUA members and Assistant Secretary, Paul Gallagher at the Rally.

### The Ocean Cleanup: Great Pacific Garbage Patch is Rapidly Growing

Sourced from: <https://worldmaritimeneeds.com/archives/247936/the-ocean-cleanup-great-pacific-garbage-patch-is-rapidly-growing/>

*If we kill the ocean, human life becomes impossible.*  
Bob Carnegie

THE GREAT PACIFIC Garbage Patch contains as much as sixteen times more plastic than previously estimated, with pollution levels increasing exponentially.

1.8 trillion pieces of plastic weighing 80,000 metric tons are currently afloat in the area which is rapidly growing, according to a three-year mapping effort conducted by an international team of scientists affiliated with The Ocean Cleanup Foundation, six universities and an aerial sensor company. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP), located halfway between Hawaii and California, is the largest accumulation zone for ocean plastics on Earth. In order to analyse the full extent of the GPGP, the team conducted the most comprehensive sampling effort of the GPGP to date by crossing the

debris field with 30 vessels simultaneously, supplemented by two aircraft surveys.



*Image Courtesy: The Ocean Cleanup*

Although most vessels were equipped with standard surface sampling nets, the fleet's mothership RV Ocean Starr also trawled two six-meter-

wide devices, which allowed the team to sample medium to large sized objects. To increase the surface area surveyed and quantify the largest pieces of plastic a C-130 Hercules aircraft was fitted with advanced sensors to collect multispectral imagery and 3D scans of the ocean garbage. The fleet collected a total of 1.2 million plastic samples, while the aerial sensors scanned more than 300 km<sup>2</sup> of ocean surface.

The results reveal that the GPGP, defined as the area with more than 10 kg of plastic per km<sup>2</sup>, measures 1.6 million square kilometres, three times the size of continental France. These figures are four to sixteen times higher than previous estimates. 92% of the mass is represented by larger objects, while only 8% of the mass is contained in microplastics, defined as pieces smaller than 5 mm in size.

"We were surprised by the amount of large plastic objects we encountered," Dr. Julia Reisser, Chief Scientist of the expeditions, said, adding that they used to think most of the debris consists of small fragments.

By comparing the amount of microplastics with historical measurements of the GPGP, the team found that plastic pollution levels within the GPGP have been growing exponentially since measurements began in the 1970s.

"To be able to solve a problem, we believe it is essential to first understand it. These results provide us with key data to develop and test our cleanup technology, but it also underlines the urgency of dealing with the plastic pollution problem. Since the results indicate that the amount of hazardous microplastics is set to increase more than tenfold if left to fragment, the time to start is now," Boyan Slat, Founder of The Ocean Cleanup and co-author of the study, concluded.

## Longshore Safety



REPORTS COMING TO Blueoceana Company from Houston indicate that an ILA Local Union 24 longshore worker was killed this morning in a

shipboard accident at Houston City Dock 20.

We understand that the accident occurred aboard MV Grebe Bulker in a steel pipe discharge operation being undertaken by one of the local Richardson firms.

## First of Ten Mammoth Ore Carriers Handed Over to CMES

*Sourced from: <https://worldmaritimeneews.com/archives/247979/first-of-ten-mammoth-ore-carriers-handed-over-to-cmes/>*



A GIANT ORE carrier Ore Tianjin has joined the Valemax fleet, the world's largest ship type intended for carrying iron ore.

The very large ore carrier, boasting 400,000 deadweight tonnes (dwt) capacity, was named and delivered on Thursday, March 22.

The ship was built by Qingdao Beihai Shipbuilding Heavy Industry, a subsidiary of China State Shipbuilding Corporation, for China Merchants Energy Shipping and ICBC Leasing.

Ore Tianjin is the first of ten ships ordered in 2016, out of which Qingdao Beihai Shipbuilding Heavy Industry will build four units. Four more Valemaxes will be built by Shanghai Waigaoqiao Shipbuilding (SWS), whereas the remaining two are assigned to China Merchants Heavy Industry (Jiangsu). The ore carriers are intended for a long-term charter with Brazilian miner Vale.

Ore Tianjin is 362 meters long, 65 meters wide and 30.4 meters deep. Its deck area is equivalent to the size of three standard football fields.

The ship belongs to the second-generation of VLOCs featuring upgraded safety, environmental and energy saving features.

Ore Tianjin's delivery brings China Merchants' fleet to 12 400,000 VLOCs, with 19 second-generation 400,000-ton VLOC on order, making it the world's largest VLOC operator.

*World Maritime News Staff; Image Courtesy: China Merchants Energy Shipping*

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