

**INTERNATIONAL
LONGSHORE &
WAREHOUSE UNION**
AFL-CIO



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Paddy Crumlin, National Secretary
The Maritime Union of Australia
Level 2, 365 Sussex Street
Sydney NSW 2000
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Paddy:

On behalf of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and as a fellow dockers' affiliate of the ITF Dockers' Section, I am writing to send the MUA our full solidarity and support as you continue the fight against anti-worker company Asciano. Asciano's attempts to gut jobs at the Patrick Terminal in Port Botany and replace workers with machines is their way of undermining the workforce and taking the union out of workplace decisions.

It is unbelievable that after nearly two years of negotiations in your terminal, Patrick Terminal now informed you they intend to automate Port Botany and, as a result, terminate over 200 dockers' jobs. Dockers and their unions will all be challenged by technological developments in the stevedoring industry. Indeed, we have discussed this at ITF international forums on many occasions.

Our position is clear: dockers' unions should be part of any discussions around changes to working practices. In this case, we are appalled to note the apparent underhanded way Patrick Terminal chose to push forward the agenda of automation in Botany Bay that will almost cut the workforce in half.

Given Patrick Terminal's past practice, I can only assume this is another thinly-veiled attack on unionized labor in the Australian port industry. However, with the support of dockers around the world, I have no doubt the MUA will be successful in this fight.

The ILWU stands with the MUA in your fight to preserve the rights of dockers and their unions and to protect decent jobs on the waterfront.

In solidarity,

Robert McEllrath
International President