



PLUMBING INDUSTRY NEWS

On March 27th 2006 the Howard government introduced workchoices, under these new IR laws workers will be disadvantaged.

The Howard Government's IR laws:

- *Remove unfair dismissal for millions of workers.*
- *Make it easier for employers to push workers onto individual contracts that undercut take home pay and employment conditions.*
- *Strip back award conditions.*
- *Make it easier for employers to cut penalty rates, overtime pay, holiday loading, public holidays, redundancy pay and work allowances.*
- *Make many ordinary union activities illegal.*
- *Change the way minimum wages are set to make them lower.'*

These are some of the reasons why you need a EBA in place so you can protect all of your working conditions. So if you do not have a EBA in place and need one negotiated you should contact the CEPU.



SPRINKLER FITTERS

The Union has been working through the **EBA'S** to make sure that all union sprinkler fitter members don't lose any of their conditions that the Howard IR laws want to take away.

These are examples what the union has negotiated in the EBA:

- 20% -22% increases to the hourly rate
- 36 hour week
- Award conditions (saved)
- \$120.00 per day living away allowance
- \$9.00 fares per day
- \$2.00 site allowance all the time
- Minimum 1.5 travel per day
- Income protection
- \$55 redundancy per week
- inclement weather policy



SANITARY PLUMBERS

In the sanitary plumbing industry there are companies out there offering AWA's that are reducing wages and taking award conditions away from employees. Under the new Howard IR laws we must protect these conditions.

The Howard government at the moment is also attacking our trade and licences, which would see our trade broken down into shorter apprenticeships, fewer qualifications and less pay. The Union is fighting this at the moment to keep our trade together.

Another thing that we must do in this industry is to educate the apprentices about the union, they are future tradesmen and this would make our industry even stronger.

Union agreements

- wage rates \$24.00 per hour
- 36 hour week
- \$1.50 site allowance all the time
- fares \$15.00 per day
- income protection
- redundancy \$50 per week
- long service leave
- super
- penalty rates
- \$100 per day living away from home
- award conditions (saved)
- inclement weather policy



Mechanical Plumbers

In the mechanical industry the union has negotiated EBA'S with the major companies and are working through the smaller companies. It has been a hard time in this industry because of companies undercutting each other on prices on jobs and the lack of work. But I think we have done well considering the new IR laws which have made us fight to save all of our award conditions in the EBA.

We must keep this industry unionised and educate fellow workers and apprentices what the role the union has in this industry.

Union Agreements

- 19% increase to the hourly rate
- 36 hour week
- \$2.00 site allowance all the time
- fares \$13.20
- travelling time \$28.14
- 10% super
- redundancy \$54 per week
- \$120 per day living away from home
- Award conditions (saved)
- Income protection
- Inclement weather policy