

Media Statement



Peak security industry body welcomes Fair Work Ombudsman report

Australia's peak security industry body, the Australian Security Industry Association (ASIAL) has welcomed the release today of the Fair Work Ombudsman's report into the security industry (*National Security Industry Campaign 2009*).

Over the course of the past six months ASIAL has provided the Fair Work Ombudsman with the opportunity of educating and informing its members through industry events held across the country, as well as a range of electronic and print publications.

Commenting on the report, ASIAL's CEO Bryan de Caires stated "The recently introduced *Security Services Award (2010)*, of which ASIAL was a key driver, will simplify wages and conditions for security personnel nationally".

"It replaces a significant number of State and Federal awards which the report identified as creating inherent ambiguities and contradictions resulting in difficulties in the interpretation of some award clauses" de Caires said.

One of the key challenges faced by providers of security personnel has been the preparedness of clients (both government and corporate) to award contracts at the lowest possible price (rather than the best value), with scant regard to the professionalism and integrity of the supplier. This approach has encouraged a 'race to the bottom' mentality among some operators.

ASIAL seeks the highest level of compliance among its members and provides an industrial relations advisory service to all members. For over a decade ASIAL has called for government to introduce a uniform and consistent national approach to the regulation of the industry. An integral component of ASIAL's approach has been the introduction of a more rigorous and comprehensive compliance regime for security operators.

ASIAL fully supports the recommendations of the report and accepts the opportunity to work more closely with the Ombudsman to address the issues identified in the report.

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About ASIAL

Since 1969, the largest industry body representing the security industry has been the Australian Security Industry Association – ASIAL. With a national membership representing approximately 85% of the security sector, ASIAL has played a key role in driving Australian standards, developing codes of conduct and raising the level of professionalism within the industry. Visit www.asial.com.au for further information.