

Wednesday, 11 June 2008

Qantas management and unions agree to hold more talks

Qantas management and unions have agreed to hold more talks next week in a bid to resolve the pay dispute between the licensed aircraft maintenance engineers and the company.

ACTU Secretary Jeff Lawrence said:

“The meeting today was positive. Discussions were full and frank.

“We canvassed the main issues of concern for both sides.

“The ALAEA engineers’ union strongly put its case for a pay increase above the level of inflation and in accordance with what other skilled workers in the community are receiving.

“A further meeting between the ALAEA, ACTU and Qantas will be held next week.

“We are hopeful that Qantas can improve on its offer and that this dispute can be settled,” said Mr Lawrence.

ALAEA Federal Secretary Steve Purvinas said:

“The ALAEA wants the dispute to end as soon as possible.

“We acknowledge that Qantas is a great airline and we don’t want the dispute to go a day longer than it needs to.

“But our members have said they can’t afford to have their living standards go backwards and we have to get a better deal.

“Plans to increase work bans and for further stopwork action are being put on hold as a sign of goodwill from our side.

“We will continue our current restrictions on overtime but will not impose additional bans,” said Mr Purvinas.

Media Contacts:

Jeff Lawrence c/- Alana Mew ph 0423 377 567

Steve Purvinas – ph 0400 071 505