



MAJORS NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

BARGAINING UPDATES

TOLL MEMBERS: PREPARE TO TAKE ACTION

It has been over 24 months since Toll members received a pay increase, but negotiations with the company have made it clear that Toll does not want to deliver outcomes you deserve. That's why, after recommendation from your bargaining committee, we recently filed a Protected Action Ballot (PAB) with the Fair Work Commission (FWC). With the PAB now granted, it's important that Toll members around the country are gearing up for a fight. Here are the top 5 reasons to take action:

5. [Threat from outside hire](#)
4. [Negligible pay increases, no super increase](#)
3. [Attack on full-time jobs](#)
2. Attack on overtime
1. Introduction of "B" rates



Listen to delegates Luke Jonas, Chris Marlow and Guillaume Maze talk about reasons #5, #4 and #3 to take action by clicking the links above.

PROTECTED ACTION ENDORSED FOR STARTRACK AND FEDEX

Like Toll, StarTrack and FedEx have both given offers that fall woefully short of your claims. What's more, both are trying to make sure their agreements don't align with the other Majors, reducing your power.

STARTRACK

Workers have won key improvements to StarTrack's offer, with the company no longer pursuing cutting overtime from part-timers, a commitment to more mental health training, and an agreement not to engage outside hire to solely reduce your overtime.

However, StarTrack still refuses to protect your permanent jobs, will not guarantee overtime be given to permanent workers first and is offering a wage freeze without backpay.

This is not good enough, and **your member-led bargaining committee has now unanimously endorsed protected industrial action.** Startrack is trying to dangle offers and test the water - they need to show workers the respect you deserve.

FEDEX

After three negotiating meetings FedEx is refusing any pay increase for 2020, any increases to superannuation, and demands an agreement that expires in 2024, taking FedEx out of the Majors bargaining cycle.

FedEx calculates that your claims would cost the company \$60 million over three years, the approximate prize pool of the FedEx Cup – FedEx cares more about rewarding golfers than its hard-working employees.

FedEx is also refusing your claims for site rates, and wants to remove owner drivers from the agreement.

Like StarTrack, this is unacceptable, which is why your bargaining committees around the country have also unanimously voted to endorse protected action.

IMPORTANT NOTE

- Toll, StarTrack and FedEx members must **urgently update your details** with us and your company if you want to vote and participate in protected action. Contact your branch to do so.
- **You must be a member to take protected action.** Click here to join now if you're not already a member.

UPDATES ON BARGAINING FOR LINFOX AND BEVCHAIN

Linfox and BevChain have now presented their counter-claims, which are **nothing short of an attack on your pay and conditions**. The key concerning claims from the companies include an introduction of B rates, which would threaten your job security, no back pay from the expiry of the agreement, and “flexible” rostering arrangements which would see the beginning of 7-day rostering.

Negotiations continue, but your member-led bargaining committee will not be backing down.



Linfox bargaining committee



BevChain bargaining committee

NEGOTIATIONS ONGOING FOR CEVA AND ACFS



To date Ceva has provided **no response to nearly half the claims put to them on May 11**.

The only thing the company is certain of is wanting a four year agreement, **which would take Ceva out of the industry bargaining cycle and reduce your negotiating power**.

Your committee will not accept another drawn out-negotiation. It's time to unite and force Ceva to engage in meaningful negotiations.



We met for the first bargaining meeting with ACFS on 17-18 June where both parties have tabled their respective claims. Whilst the negotiation was constructive, a number of key issues are still outstanding.

The substantial claims discussion will continue when we meet again on Aug 12.

OTHER NEWS



\$50MILLION FUNDING FOR WA REST STOPS

We commend the WA State Government for recognising the importance of truck drivers by committing **\$50 million to safe and appropriate rest stops on the highways of WA**. The money will go towards upgrading vital infrastructure and building truck bay amenities that will make a significant difference in the lives of long-distance truck drivers.

“This funding would not have been possible if not for the tireless campaigning of union members,” said State Secretary Tim Dawson. “With this State Government’s willingness to consult with industry and union members, together we can make significant improvements to the lives of truck drivers and ensure the funding is directed to the correct places.”

See the areas to be upgraded at [this post](#).

LINDSAY IN THE FAIR WORK COMMISSION

Though not one of our major road transport companies, we thought it was important to give you an update on Lindsay, one of 9 retail, port and general transport companies who compete with majors for key contracts. **We are fighting to unionise and lift standards in these companies.**



In most recent news, the FWC has initiated a hearing about Lindsay's EA, which was recently voted up despite a strong no vote in the first round.

The TWU believes the company did not undergo a proper process to make sure workers knew what they were voting about, and instead tried to ram this sub-standard EA through, which would leave workers worse off than the Award. **After the tragic deaths of two workers in the past few years, Lindsay should be guaranteeing the safest possible terms and conditions, not pushing through an agreement which dips below the minimum standards.**

We have seen hundreds of new members joining across companies like Lindsay, and we will keep fighting until their EAs have fair pay and conditions on par with our claims for yours.

MEETINGS CONTINUE WITH THE TOP 50 CLIENTS

As we know, many of the biggest transport clients like Amazon and Aldi have made record profits during the pandemic. We're pressing them to commit to join Coles and Woolies in taking steps to improve their supply chains and the broader industry. This is the chance for us to see which clients will step up to be part of the industry solution and which will try and ignore the transport workers which have been helping them secure these record profits during the pandemic.



AMAZON CONTINUES TO IGNORE SAFETY AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

In the last quarter, Amazon's profits have jumped 224%, and its founder Jeff Bezos has become one of the billionaires who've made it to space off the backs of workers. But in a Senate Inquiry hearing in June, it was revealed that **Amazon has broken the law in Australia by failing to train Amazon Flex workers on safety and by refusing to allow union officials to talk to workers**, calling the police on two occasions.

Amazon's business model that flouts Australian law and drags down safety standards is at risk of becoming more widespread across the country if workers do not stand together. We continue to fight for the Federal Government to urgently regulate the gig economy, which has such huge implications for all drivers.

JOIN THE TRUCKIE SOLIDARITY FACEBOOK GROUP

In 2021 it's important that truck drivers are **united right across the industry**. To keep up with what's going on with other companies and connect with fellow drivers, join the [Truckie Solidarity Facebook group](#).

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.

JOIN NOW FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

www.twu.com.au/join

TWU Michael Kaine **P:** 02 8114 6500 **E:** twu@twu.com.au **W:** www.twu.com.au

Authorised by Michael Kaine, National Secretary, Transport Workers' Union, Level 2, 388-390 Sussex Street, Sydney 2000 p (02) 8114 6500 e twu@twu.com.au

