



# ROAD TRANSPORT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022

We know that our industry is in crisis. It's never been more urgent to level the playing field.

The Safe Rates campaign is our fight to lift industry standards, and last year we took a huge step forward in winning historic job security protections. Now we're focused on:

- ▶ Winning **legislation** to set standards across the industry
- ▶ Prepping for **2023-2024 bargaining**
- ▶ Making a **claim on retailers** to do more in supply chains
- ▶ Working with members in other companies to win **Same Job Same Pay** and align agreements for 2026 expiry

With a new government in power that's committed to workers, we now have the opportunity to win legislation to get the balance right for employee drivers, owner drivers, gig workers, and employers. **But we must show how urgent this reform is.**

## 2021 JOB SECURITY FIGHT



The 2021 fight for job security in major transport companies showed how much we can do when we're united. We saw:

16,000

workers taking action at more than **220 sites** in FedEx, Toll, Global Express and StarTrack

90%+

**Protected Action Ballot yes votes**

Wins

on job security, pay and conditions in all 9 majors



## FEDEX JOINS THE RACE TO THE BOTTOM



FedEx drivers preparing for Convoy.



Tony Mathews, FedEx tied owner driver in Canberra

In a new low, FedEx is trying to introduce an underclass of lower-paid owner drivers on substandard piece rates to compete with Amazon. **This is the Amazon effect in practice.** It would:

- ▶ Accelerate the **race to the bottom** on wages and conditions
- ▶ Increase **pressure** to drive longer to make ends meet
- ▶ Threaten our **job security**

“ Recently FedEx told us they want to bring in their own **Amazon Flex model**. That will put our jobs on the line. We warned them about the unsafe gig economy last year in negotiations but they say they need to compete.

- Tony Mathews, FedEx owner driver

**This is why we need to fight hard for a fairer and safer industry.**



**93 parcels** delivered per 10-hour shift

**That's 1 every 6 minutes**

Drivers could be **sacked** for not delivering enough parcels

# PREPARING FOR BARGAINING IN MAJORS

- We'll be back in bargaining for **Toll, Global Express, Linfox, Bevchain, ACFS and Ceva** in early 2023. **Startrack and FedEx** will bargain in 2024 ahead of all expiries being aligned again in 2026
- Delegates have been meeting in cross-company **Majors Bargaining Round (MBR)** meetings to talk through the 2023 plan and map out issues
- Delegates have been passing **historic resolutions** in support of an industry plan to lift standards
- **Surveys are currently being circulated.** If you don't have one, request one from your delegate

## BARGAINING IN 2023



## BARGAINING IN 2024



## BARGAINING IN 2026



# RAMPING UP IN RETAIL

We've circulated surveys at 9 retail and ports companies across Australia asking workers to share their views on where their companies are at. **The findings are damning:** companies are making record profits, but members who've never worked harder don't get their fair share. It's time to change that.

**COMING UP:** report backs about the plan to **lift standards** across the retail sector.



QLD - Border Express



WA - SCT



QLD - Qube



MBR meetings

Majors surveys

Road transport round-table

Retail surveys



NEXT STEPS

Jobs and skills summit

Fight to win legislation

Majors and retail claim development

# TAKING THE FIGHT TO GOVERNMENT

## UNION WIN: TRANSPORT REFORM IN QUEENSLAND

I support Chapter 10A because it will stop the race to the bottom in Transport and mean a safer industry for myself, my mates, and my family.

Andy  
Casual Employee

SUPPORT CHAPTER 10A TO  
FIX THE TRANSPORT CRISIS



In June, the Queensland Labor Government introduced a Bill that addresses the crisis in our transport industry.

If this Bill becomes law, an independent body will be able to make rulings to ensure owner drivers (including gig delivery drivers) can recover their costs and are not left out of pocket when fuel and other expenses rise.

It will also allow owner drivers to appeal unfair terminations of contract. This is a huge win for courier, gig economy and owner-driver members.

## TWU NATIONAL CONVOYS FOR URGENT REFORM



Truck drivers, couriers, gig workers, employers and transport associations called for urgent action and commitment on Safe Rates at Parliament House and in capital cities across the country.

We have a chance to win a system that can:

- ▶ Set fair standards
- ▶ Hold clients to account to ensure fairer + safer contracts
- ▶ Push for **Same Job Same Pay** across the industry
- ▶ Ensure payments are made **on time**
- ▶ Protect **rights** of all drivers and ensure all **voices** are heard
- ▶ Ensure **contractors** can raise problems

## ON THE NEWS

Watch the coverage of TWU convoys all around the country.



## TRANSPORT WORKERS IN PARLIAMENT

On the first sitting week of the new Parliament, transport workers met and shared their stories to politicians from all sides, with dozens signing our pledge to commit to the Safe Rates campaign.

Well done to everyone who advocated for a fairer industry.



## UNION WIN: TRANSPORT ROUNDTABLE CALLS FOR REFORM

Following the convoys and visits to Parliament House, Employment and Workplace Relations Minister Tony Burke committed to an **industry roundtable meeting** with TWU members and other representatives from around road transport.

It is a testament to how you've kept up the pressure that the organisations below have now backed a set of principles calling for **reform to set enforceable standards across the industry**.



### THE AGREED PRINCIPLES ARE:

- 1** Establish and maintain appropriate and **enforceable standards in relation to both traditional transport operations and on-demand delivery and rideshare platform work**;
- 2** Promote best practice supply & contract chain industry standards;
- 3** Effectively and efficiently **resolve disputes**;
- 4** **Ensure transport workers** are able to access and contribute to an **effective collective voice**;
- 5** Convene as necessary specialist advisory groups drawn from the industry to provide advice and recommendations; and
- 6** Provide **appropriate enforcement to ensure standards** and objectives are met.

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