

## Big improvement in compliance for Taste of Tasmania employers

14 September 2010

A second audit of businesses operating at the Taste of Tasmania festival has revealed a big increase in compliance with workplace laws, according to the Fair Work Ombudsman.

In 2007-08, Fair Work inspectors audited 21 businesses and found 14 (67 per cent) with contraventions and 45 workers who had been underpaid \$5000.

As a result, education sessions for festival businesses were conducted in the lead-up to the 2008-09 festival and repeated again in 2009-10.

At the most recent event, inspectors conducted follow-up visits to eight of the businesses found to be in breach in 2007-08, of which seven were found to be fully compliant.

One business had inadvertently underpaid a worker \$387, which the operator promptly agreed to voluntarily repay without the need for further action.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive-Director Michael Campbell says the big increase in compliance is evidence of the effectiveness of ongoing education.

"This educative approach is in keeping with our Agency's preference to work with employers to help them improve their compliance with workplace laws," he said.

"It is important that the many young and transient workers at the festival receive their full entitlements and we are doing this by assisting their employers to do the right thing."

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a number of tools on its website - [www.fwo.gov.au](http://www.fwo.gov.au) - to assist employees and employers.

Small to medium-sized businesses without human resources staff can also ensure they are better equipped when hiring, managing and dismissing employees by using free template employment documentation with step-by-step instructions or accessing a series of Best Practice Guides.

Employers or employees seeking assistance or further information can also contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 from 8am-6pm weekdays. For translations, call 13 14 50.

Media inquiries:

Ryan Pedler, Senior Adviser, Media & Stakeholder Relations  
(03) 9954 2561, 0411 430 902  
[ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au](mailto:ryan.pedler@fwo.gov.au)

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### Contact us

Fair Work Online: [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

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