

Brisbane retailer fined over underpayment

14 April 2011

A Brisbane computer hardware retailing company and its director have been fined a total of \$6380 for underpaying an employee.

Macquarie Technology Group International Pty Ltd has been fined \$5280 and the company's sole director, Paul Desmond Wallace, has been fined \$1100.

The fines, which are the result of a prosecution by the Fair Work Ombudsman, were handed down in the Federal Magistrates Court in Brisbane.

Federal Magistrate Michael Burnett imposed the penalties after Wallace admitted he was involved in Macquarie Technology Group International committing two breaches of workplace laws by underpaying an accountant \$5946.

The accountant was underpaid wages between September, 2006 and April, 2009 and was also underpaid accrued annual leave entitlements when his employment ended.

The underpayments were rectified only after the Fair Work Ombudsman initiated court proceedings.

Fair Work Ombudsman Executive Director Michael Campbell says the penalty sends a clear message to employers that it is not acceptable for them to ignore contraventions identified by inspectors.

"The employer's failure to rectify the underpayment in a timely manner was a key factor in our decision to prosecute this case," he said.

"We are committed to ensuring employees receive the full entitlements owing to them.

"Successful prosecutions such as this also benefit employers who are complying with workplace laws because it helps them to compete on a level playing field."

Employers or employees seeking assistance should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 or visit www.fairwork.gov.au. An interpreter service is available on 13 14 50.

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Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

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

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