

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 - s. 698 - reprint of award

PEARL CULTURE (NORTH QUEENSLAND) AWARD 2003

Following the Declaration of the General Ruling in the 2010 State Wage Case (matter numbers B/2010/20 and B/2010/21), the Pearl Culture (North Queensland) Award 2003 is hereby reprinted, pursuant to s. 698 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*.

I hereby certify that the Award contained herein is a true and correct copy of the Pearl Culture (North Queensland) Award 2003 as at 1 September 2010.

Dated 1 November 2010.

[L.S.] G.D. Savill
Industrial Registrar

PEARL CULTURE (NORTH QUEENSLAND) AWARD 2003

PART 1 - APPLICATION AND OPERATION

1.1 Title

This Award is known as the Pearl Culture (North Queensland) Award 2003.

1.2 Arrangement

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1.3 Date of operation

This Award takes effect from 18 August 2003.

1.4 Coverage

This Award applies to all persons for whom classifications and rates of pay are prescribed herein and who are engaged in or in connection with the cultivation, gathering and classification of cultured pearls within the area hereinafter prescribed.

1.4.1 Northern Division

That portion of the State along or north of a line commencing at the junction of the sea coast with the 21st parallel of south latitude; then by that parallel of latitude due west to 147 degrees of east longitude; then by that parallel of longitude due south to 22 degrees 30 minutes of south latitude; then by that parallel of latitude due west to the western border of the State.

(a) Western District

That portion of the Northern Division along or west of 144 degrees 30 minutes of east longitude.

(b) Islands

The above boundaries in the Northern Division - Western District, shall include any islands situated off that part of the Queensland coast which are included in the said District.

1.5 Definitions

- 1.5.1 The "Act" means the *Industrial Relations Act 1999* as amended or replaced from time to time.
- 1.5.2 "Casual Employee" means an employee engaged and paid on an hourly basis whose employment is subject to termination without notice.
- 1.5.3 "Ganger, Foreman, &c." means an employee appointed to be in charge of and to supervise the work of other employees.
- 1.5.4 "Union" means The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland.
- 1.5.5 "Weekly Employee" means an employee engaged on a weekly hiring.

1.6 Parties bound

This Award is legally binding upon the employees as prescribed by clause 1.4 and their employers, and The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland and its members.

PART 2 - FLEXIBILITY

2.1 Enterprise flexibility

- 2.1.1 As part of a process of improvement in productivity and efficiency, discussion should take place at each enterprise to provide more flexible working arrangements, improvement in the quality of working life, enhancement of skills, training and job satisfaction and to encourage consultative mechanisms across the workplace.
- 2.1.2 The consultative processes established in an enterprise in terms of clause 2.1 may provide an appropriate mechanism for consideration of matters relevant to clause 2.1.1. Union delegates at the place of work may be involved in such discussions.
- 2.1.3 Any proposed genuine agreement reached between an employer and employee/s in an enterprise is contingent upon the agreement being submitted to the Commission in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Act and is to have no force or effect until approval is given.

PART 3 - COMMUNICATION, CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

3.1 Grievance and dispute settling procedure

The matters to be dealt with in this procedure shall include all grievances or disputes between an employee and an employer in respect to any industrial matter and all other matters that the parties agree on and are specified herein. Such procedures shall apply a to single employee or to any number of employees.

- 3.1.1 In the event of an employee having a grievance or dispute the employee shall in the first instance attempt to resolve the matter with the immediate supervisor, who shall respond to such request as soon as reasonably practicable under the circumstances. Where the dispute concerns alleged actions of the immediate supervisor the employee/s may bypass this level in the procedure.
- 3.1.2 If the grievance or dispute is not resolved under clause 3.1.1, the employee or the employee's representative may refer the matter to the next higher level of management for discussion. Such discussion should, if possible, take place within 24 hours after the request by the employee or the employee's representative.
- 3.1.3 If the grievance involves allegations of unlawful discrimination by a supervisor the employee may commence the grievance resolution process by reporting the allegations to the next level of management beyond that of the supervisor concerned. If there is no level of management beyond that involved in the allegation the employee may proceed directly to the process outlined at clause 3.1.5.
- 3.1.4 If the grievance or dispute is still unresolved after discussions listed in clause 3.1.2, the matter shall, in the case of a member of a Union, be reported to the relevant officer of that Union and the senior management of the employer or the employer's nominated industrial representative. An employee who is not a member of a Union may report the grievance or dispute to senior management or the nominated industrial representative. This should occur as soon as it is evident that discussions under clause 3.1.2 will not result in resolution of the dispute.
- 3.1.5 If, after discussion between the parties, or their nominees mentioned in clause 3.1.4, the dispute remains unresolved after the parties have genuinely attempted to achieve a settlement thereof, then notification of the existence of the dispute is to be given to the Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

- 3.1.6 Whilst all of the above procedure is being followed, normal work shall continue except in the case of a genuine safety issue.
- 3.1.7 The *status quo* existing before the emergence of the grievance or dispute is to continue whilst the above procedure is being followed.
- 3.1.8 All parties shall give due consideration to matters raised or any suggestion or recommendation made by the Commission with a view to the prompt settlement of the dispute.
- 3.1.9 Any Order or Decision of the Commission (subject to the parties right of appeal under the Act) will be final and binding on all parties to the dispute.
- 3.1.10 Discussions at any stage of the procedure shall not be unreasonably delayed by any party, subject to acceptance that some matters may be of such complexity or importance that it may take a reasonable period of time for the appropriate response to be made. If genuine discussions are unreasonably delayed or hindered, it shall be open to any party to give notification of the dispute in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

PART 4 - EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEES' DUTIES, EMPLOYMENT RELATIONSHIP AND RELATED ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Employment categories

- 4.1.1 Employees covered by this Award shall be advised in writing of their employment category upon appointment.

Employment categories are:

- (a) full-time;
- (b) part-time (as defined); or
- (c) casual (as defined).

4.2 Casual employment

Casual Employees shall be paid at a rate per hour to be ascertained by dividing the appropriate weekly rate by 40 and adding 23 per cent.

4.3 Mixed functions

Where any employee on any one day performs 2 or more classes of work to which a differential rate fixed by this Award is applicable, such person if employed for more than 4 hours on the class or classes of work carrying a higher rate shall be paid in respect of the whole time during which the employee works on that day at the same rate, which shall be at the highest rate fixed by the Award in respect of any such classes of work; and if employed for 4 hours or less on the classes of work carrying a higher rate, the employee shall be paid at such highest rate for 4 hours.

4.4 No dismissal or reduction in wages

No employee shall be dismissed or reduced in wages as a result of the coming into operation of this Award.

4.5 Anti-discrimination

- 4.5.1 It is the intention of the parties to this Award to prevent and eliminate discrimination as defined by the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* and the *Industrial Relations Act 1999* as amended from time to time, which includes:

- (a) discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status, family responsibilities, pregnancy, parental status, age, race, impairment, religion, political belief or activity, trade union activity, lawful sexual activity and association with, or relation to, a person identified on the basis of the above attributes;
- (b) sexual harassment; and
- (c) racial and religious vilification.

- 4.5.2 Accordingly in fulfilling their obligations under the grievance and disputes settling procedure in clause 3.1, the parties to this Award must take reasonable steps to ensure that neither the Award provisions nor their operation are directly or indirectly discriminatory in their effects.

- 4.5.3 Under the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* it is unlawful to victimise an employee because the employee has made

or may make or has been involved in a complaint of unlawful discrimination or harassment.

4.5.4 Nothing in clause 4.5 is to be taken to affect:

- (a) any different treatment (or treatment having different outcomes) which is specifically exempted under the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*; or
- (b) an employee, employer or registered organisation, pursuing matters of discrimination, including by application to the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission/Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland.

4.6 Termination of employment

4.6.1 Statement of employment

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.6.2 Termination by employer

- (a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years	3 weeks
More than 5 years	4 weeks

- (b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least two years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

- (c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

- (d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

- (e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.6.3 Notice of termination by employee

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be one week. If an employee fails to give notice, the employer shall have the right to withhold monies due to the employee with a maximum amount equal to the amount the employee would have received under clause 4.6.2(d) for a period of notice of one week.

4.6.4 Time off during notice period

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.7 Introduction of changes

4.7.1 Employer's duty to notify

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.7.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternate employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.7.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8 Redundancy

4.8.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.8.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse affects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out clause 4.8.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.6.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.8.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmitter of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
- (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmitter or any prior transmitter shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) In clause 4.8.3, 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.8.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.8.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.8.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.6.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years	16

- (b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.8.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.8.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.8.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.8.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.8.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.8.12 *Employers exempted*

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.8 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A 'company' shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.8.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.8.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmittor, and any prior transmittor, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmittor; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmittor and any prior transmittor to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.

(b) The Commission may amend clause 4.8.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.8.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay.

4.9 **Trainees**

Trainees are engaged under this Award, except as amended from time to time by the Order for *Apprentices' and Trainees' Wages and Conditions (Excluding Certain Queensland Government Entities)*.

4.10 **Continuity of service - transfer of calling**

In cases where a transfer of calling occurs, continuity of service should be determined in accordance with sections 67-71 of the Act as amended from time to time.

PART 5 - WAGES AND WAGE RELATED MATTERS

5.1 **Wages rates**

5.1.1 *Adults*

The minimum rates of wages payable to employees employed on a weekly hiring in the Northern Division Western District shall be:

Classification	Award Rate Per Week \$
Ganger, Foreman, Etc.	588.20
General Hands, Labourers	588.20

The rates of pay in this Award are intended to include the arbitrated wage adjustment payable under the 1 September 2010 Declaration of General Ruling and earlier Safety Net Adjustments and arbitrated wage adjustments. This arbitrated wage adjustment may be offset against any equivalent amount in rates of pay received by employees whose wages and conditions of employment are regulated by this Award which are above the wage rates prescribed in the Award. Such payments include wages payable pursuant to certified agreements, currently operating enterprise flexibility agreements, Queensland workplace agreements, award amendments to give effect to enterprise agreements and overaward arrangements. Absorption which is contrary to the terms of an agreement is not required.

Increases made under previous State Wage Cases or under the current Statement of Principles, excepting those resulting from enterprise agreements, are not to be used to offset arbitrated wage adjustments.

5.1.2 *Junior employees*

The minimum rates payable under this Award to all classes of junior employees shall be calculated as follows:

	Percentage of minimum adult male rate %
Under 17 years of age	45
17 and under 18 years of age	55
And thereafter the appropriate adult rate.	

Junior rates shall be calculated in multiples of 10 cents with any result of 5 cents or more being taken to the next highest 10 cent multiple.

5.1.3 *Proportion of juniors*

For every 3 employees over 18 years of age employed the employer shall be allowed to employ one junior under the age of 18 years.

5.2 Payment of wages

5.2.1 Upon the termination of employment all wages including overtime and allowances shall be paid on any day in each pay cycle.

5.2.2 Payment of wages shall be made weekly at the discretion of the employer by one of the following means:

(a) Cash;

(b) Cheque; and

(c) Payment directly into an employee's nominated bank account, credit union or Building Society Account without cost to the employee.

Payment for work performed during such pay cycle shall not be held by the employer for a period in excess of 2 days:

Provided such payment to weekly and part-time employees may relate to the average number of ordinary hours in accordance with a roster system:

Provided further such payment to Casual Employees shall be on the basis of actual hours worked in each week.

PART 6 - HOURS OF WORK, BREAKS, OVERTIME, SHIFT WORK, WEEKEND WORK

6.1 Hours of work

The ordinary working hours shall not exceed 8 per day or 40 per week, and shall be worked between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday inclusive:

Provided that in lieu of the ordinary working hours prescribed above, the ordinary working hours of employees of Oceangem Pearls Pty. Ltd. working at Escape River, and Barrier Pearls Pty. Ltd. working at Albany Island, shall be as agreed upon between the said Companies and the Far Northern District Secretary of the Union:

Provided further that the ordinary working hours of general hands performing security duties shall not exceed 8 per day (to be worked continuously except for meal breaks) or 40 per week, and may be worked between Sunday and Saturday, both days inclusive. All ordinary time worked by such employees on Saturdays and Sundays shall be paid for at the rate of time and a-half.

6.2 Meal break and rest pauses

Employees required to work for more than 5 hours continuously on any one day shall be allowed a meal break of one hour.

All employees shall receive a rest pause of 10 minutes' duration in the employer's time in the first and second half of their daily work. Such rest pauses shall be taken at such times so as not to interfere with continuity of work where continuity is necessary.

It is agreed that rest pauses will not be eliminated, but where agreed between an employer and majority of employees on site, and subject to this local agreement being ratified by the Branch Secretary of the Union, periods of work may be re-arranged so that there is less disruption to certain work by combining the rest pauses into one 20 minute rest pause.

Such rest pauses shall be taken at such times so as not to interfere with continuity of work where continuity is necessary.

6.3 Overtime

6.3.1 All time worked in excess of the ordinary working hours of the ordinary working day, or before the ordinary starting time or after the ordinary ceasing time shall, except as hereinafter provided, be paid for at the rate of time and a-half for the first 3 hours, and double time thereafter.

6.3.2 All overtime worked on Sundays shall be paid for at the rate of double time.

6.3.3 Employees required to work during the recognised meal hour should be paid at the rate of double time.

PART 7 - LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

7.1 Annual leave

- 7.1.1 Every employee (other than a Casual Employee) covered by this Award shall at the end of each year of employment be entitled to annual leave on full pay of 4 weeks.
- 7.1.2 For the purposes of clause 7.1 "year of employment" shall mean and include any year of employment completed on or after 3 December 1973.
- 7.1.3 Such annual leave shall be exclusive of any public holiday which may occur during the period of that annual leave and (subject to clause 7.1.9) shall be paid for by the employer in advance:
- (a) In the case of any and every employee in receipt immediately prior to that leave of ordinary pay at a rate in excess of the ordinary rate payable under this Award at that excess rate; and
 - (b) In every other case, at the ordinary rate payable to the employee concerned immediately prior to that leave under this Award.
- 7.1.4 If the employment of any employee is terminated at the expiration of a full year of employment, the employer shall be deemed to have given the leave to the employee from the date of the termination of the employment and shall forthwith pay to the employee in addition to all other amounts due to the employee, the employee's pay, calculated in accordance with clause 7.1.9, for 4 weeks and also the employee's ordinary pay for any public holiday occurring during such period of 4 weeks.
- 7.1.5 If the employment of any employee is terminated before the expiration of a full year of employment, such employee shall be paid, in addition to all other amounts due, an amount equal to 1/12th of the employee's pay for the period of the employee's employment calculated in accordance with clause 7.1.9.
- 7.1.6 Provided that a period in excess of 3 months during which the employee is on leave of absence without pay shall not be taken into account in calculating the year of employment for the purpose of clause 7.1.
- 7.1.7 Unless the employee shall otherwise agree the employer should give the employee at least one month's notice of the date from which the employee's annual leave shall be taken.
- 7.1.8 Except as hereinbefore provided it shall not be lawful for the employer to give or for the employee to receive payment in lieu of annual leave.

7.1.9 Calculation of annual leave pay

In respect to annual leave entitlements to which clause 7.1 applies annual leave pay (including any proportionate payments) shall be calculated as follows:

(a) Shift workers.

Subject to clause 7.1.9(c), the rate of wage to be paid to a shift worker shall be the rate payable for work in ordinary time according to the employee's roster or projected roster, including, Saturday, Sunday or holiday shifts.

(b) Leading hands, &c.

Subject to clause 7.1.9(c), leading hand allowances and amounts of a like nature otherwise payable for ordinary time worked shall be included in the wages to be paid to employees during annual leave.

(c) All employees

Subject to the provisions of clause 7.1.9(d), in no case shall the payment by an employer to an employee be less than the sum of the following amounts:

- (i) The employee's ordinary wage rate as prescribed by the Award for the period of the annual leave (excluding shift premiums and week-end penalty rates);
- (ii) Leading hand allowance or amounts of a like nature;
- (iii) A further amount calculated at the rate of 17.5% of the amounts referred to in clauses 7.1.9(c)(i) and 7.1.9(c)(ii).

(d) The provisions of 7.1.9(c) shall not apply to the following:

- (i) Any period or periods of annual leave exceeding:

- 5 weeks in the case of employees employed in a calling where 3 shifts per day are worked over a

period of 7 days per week; or

- 4 weeks in any other case.

(ii) Employers (and their employees) who are already paying (or receiving) an annual leave bonus, loading or other annual leave payment which is not less favourable to employees.

7.2 Sick leave

7.2.1 Entitlement

- (a) Every employee, except casuals, pieceworkers, and school-based apprentices and trainees, is entitled to 8 days' sick leave for each completed year of their employment with their employer .
- (b) This entitlement will accrue at the rate of one day's sick leave after each 6 weeks of employment.
- (c) Payment for sick leave will be made based on the ordinary number of hours that would have been worked by the employee if the employee were not absent on sick leave.
- (d) Sick leave may be taken for part of a day.
- (e) Sick leave shall be cumulative, but unless the employer and employee otherwise agree, no employee shall be entitled to receive, and no employer shall be bound to make, payment for more than 13 weeks' absence from work through illness in any one year.
- (f) Part-time employees accrue sick leave on a proportional basis.

7.2.2 Employee must give notice

The payment of sick leave is subject to the employee promptly advising the employer of the employee's absence and its expected duration.

7.2.3 Evidence supporting a claim

When the employee's absence is for more than 2 days the employee is required to give the employer a doctor's certificate or other reasonably acceptable evidence about the nature and approximate duration of the illness.

7.2.4 Accumulated sick leave

An employee's accumulated sick leave entitlements are preserved when:

- (a) The employee is absent from work on unpaid leave granted by the employer;
- (b) The employer or employee terminates the employee's employment and the employee is re-employed within 3 months; or
- (c) The employee's employment is terminated because of illness or injury and the employee is re-employed by the same employer without having been employed in the interim.

The employee accumulates sick leave entitlements whilst absent from work on paid leave granted by the employer .

7.2.6 Workers' compensation

Where an employee is in receipt of workers' compensation, the employee is not entitled to payment of sick leave.

7.3 Bereavement leave

7.3.1 Full-time and part-time employees

Full-time and part-time employees shall on the death of a member of their immediate family or household in Australia be entitled to paid bereavement leave up to and including the day of the funeral of such person. Such leave shall be without deduction of pay for a period not exceeding the number of hours worked by the employee in 2 ordinary days of work. Proof of such death is to be furnished by the employee to the satisfaction of the employer .

7.3.2 Long-term casual employees

- (a) A long-term Casual Employee is entitled to at least 2 days unpaid bereavement leave on the death of a member of the person's immediate family or household in Australia.

- (b) A "long-term Casual Employee" is a Casual Employee engaged by a particular employer, on a regular and systematic basis, for several periods of employment during a period of at least one year immediately before the employee seeks to access an entitlement under clause 7.3.2.

7.3.3 "Immediate family" includes:

- (a) A spouse (including a former spouse, a *de facto* spouse and a former *de facto* spouse, spouse of the same sex) of the employee; and
- (b) A child or an adult child (including an adopted child, a foster child, an ex-foster child, a stepchild or an ex-nuptial child), parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling of the employee or spouse of the employee.

7.3.4 An employee with the consent of the employer, may apply for unpaid leave when a member of the employee's immediate family or household in Australia dies and the period of bereavement leave entitlement provided above is insufficient.

7.3.5 Provided the employee shall be entitled to a maximum of 2 days' leave without loss of pay on each occasion and on the production of satisfactory evidence of the death outside Australia of an employee's spouse, father or mother, and where such employee travels outside of Australia to attend the funeral.

7.4 Long service leave

All employees covered by this Award are entitled to long service leave on full pay under, subject to, and in accordance with, the provisions of Chapter 2, Part 3, sections 42-58 of the Act as amended from time to time.

7.5 Family leave

The provisions of the Family Leave Award apply to and are deemed to form part of this Award.

7.5.1 It is to be noted that:

- (a) part-time work can be performed by agreement in the circumstances specified in the Family Leave Award;
- (b) a copy of the Family Leave Award is required to be displayed in accordance with section 697 of the Act.

7.5.2 The Family Leave Award also provides for the terms and conditions of leave associated with:

- (a) Maternity leave
- (b) Parental leave
- (c) Adoption leave
- (d) Special responsibility leave for the care and support of the employee's immediate family or household.

7.6 Public holidays

7.6.1 All work done by any employee on:

- the 1st January;
- the 26th January;
- Good Friday;
- Easter Saturday (the day after Good Friday);
- Easter Monday;
- the 25th April (Anzac Day);
- The Birthday of the Sovereign;
- Christmas Day;
- Boxing Day; or
- any day appointed under the *Holidays Act 1983*, to be kept in place of any such holiday

will be paid for at the rate of double time and a-half with a minimum of 4 hours.

7.6.2 *Labour Day*

All employees covered by this Award shall be entitled to be paid a full day's wage for Labour Day (the first Monday in May or other day appointed under the *Holidays Act 1983*, to be kept in place of that holiday) irrespective of the fact that no work may be performed on such day, and if any employee concerned actually works on Labour Day, such employee

shall be paid a full day's wage for that day and in addition a payment for the time actually worked by the employee at one and a-half times the ordinary rate prescribed for such work with a minimum of 4 hours.

7.6.3 Annual show

All work done by employees in a district specified from time to time by the Minister by notification published in the *Gazette* on the day appointed under the *Holidays Act 1983*, to be kept as a holiday in relation to the annual agricultural, horticultural or industrial show held at the principal city or town, as specified in such notification, of such district shall be paid for at the rate of double time and a-half with a minimum of 4 hours

7.6.4 Double time and a-half

For the purposes of clause 7.6, where the rate of wages is a weekly rate, "double time and a-half" shall mean one and one-half day's wages in addition to the prescribed weekly rate, or *pro rata* if there is more or less than a day.

7.6.5 Where an employee works up to the commencement of a close-down of work at the Easter period and recommences on the day on which the employee is instructed to work after the resumption of operations the employee shall be entitled to be paid for any public holidays which occur during such close-down. Clause 7.6.5 shall not apply to employees who have been employed for a lesser period than one month.

7.6.6 Stand down

Any and every employee who, having been dismissed or stood down by their employer during the month of December in any year, shall be re-employed by that employer at any time before the end of the month of January in the next succeeding year shall if that employee shall have been employed by that employer for a continuous period of 2 weeks or longer immediately prior to being so dismissed or stood down, be entitled to be paid and shall be paid by their employer (at the ordinary rate payable to that employee when so dismissed or stood down) for any one or more of the following holidays, namely, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and the 1st January occurring during the period on and from the date of their dismissal or standing down to and including the date of their re-employment as aforesaid.

7.6.7 If a public holiday falls on the day off of an employee whose ordinary working hours may be spread over 7 days of the week, such employee shall be granted a day's holiday in lieu at a time to be mutually agreed upon.

7.7 Jury service

- (a) An employee, other than a casual employee, required to attend for jury service during their ordinary working hours shall be reimbursed by the employer an amount equal to the difference between the amount paid in respect of their attendance for such jury service and the ordinary pay the employee would have been paid if the employee was not absent on jury service.
- (b) Alternatively, by agreement, fees (other than meal allowance) received by the employee to attend jury service will be paid to the employer and the employer will continue to pay the employee their ordinary pay for the time the employee was absent on jury service.
- (c) Employees shall notify their employer as soon as practicable of the date upon which they are required to attend for jury service and shall provide their employer with proof of such attendance, the duration of such attendance and the amount received in respect thereof.
- (d) If the employee is not required to serve on a jury for a day or part of a day after attending for jury service and the employee would ordinarily be working for all or part of the remaining day, the employee must, if practicable, present for work at the earliest reasonable opportunity.
- (e) "Ordinary pay" means the rate of pay that an employee would normally expect to receive for working ordinary hours on an ordinary day of the week, including any over-award payment. "Ordinary pay" excludes overtime, penalty rates of all types - including those attaching to working ordinary hours (for example) on a Saturday, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and other ancillary payments of a like nature.

PART 8 - TRANSFERS, TRAVELLING AND WORKING AWAY FROM USUAL PLACE OF WORK

No provisions inserted in this Award relevant to this Part.

PART 9 - TRAINING AND RELATED MATTERS

9.1 Commitment to training

9.1.1 The parties to this Award recognise that in order to increase the efficiency and productivity of the enterprise and also the national and international competitiveness of the industries covered by this Award, a greater

commitment to training and skill development is required. Accordingly, the parties commit themselves to:

- (a) developing a more highly skilled and flexible workforce;
- (b) providing employees with career opportunities through appropriate training to acquire additional skills; and
- (c) removing barriers to the use of skills acquired.

PART 10 - OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS AND AMENITIES

10.1 Facilities

10.1.1 Where an employee is required, as a condition of employment, to reside on the employer's premises the employer shall provide reasonable accommodation free of charge. Such accommodation shall include wire beds or canvas stretchers with suitable mattresses and adequate artificial light and ventilation for all reasonable domestic requirements.

10.1.2 Separate and adequate dining and sleeping quarters and toilet facilities shall be provided for both sexes, where both male and female employees are employed.

10.1.3 The employer shall provide free of charge for all employees living on the employer's premises reasonable cooking facilities and fuel and a sufficient supply of water suitable for drinking, ablutions and other domestic purposes.

10.2 First-aid equipment

10.2.1 First-aid kits shall be provided by the employer on the property and maintained in good order and condition so as to be readily available for use at any time.

PART 11 - AWARD COMPLIANCE AND UNION RELATED MATTERS

Preamble

Clauses 11.1 and 11.2 replicate legislative provisions contained within the Act. In order to ensure the currency of existing legal requirements parties are advised to refer to sections 366, 372 and 373 of the Act as amended from time to time.

11.1 Right of entry

11.1.1 Authorised industrial officer

- (a) An "Authorised industrial officer" is any Union official holding a current authority issued by the Industrial Registrar.
- (b) Right of entry is limited to workplaces where the work performed falls within the registered coverage of the Union.

11.1.2 Entry procedure

- (a) The authorised industrial officer is entitled to enter the workplace during normal business hours as long as:
 - (i) the authorised industrial officer alerts the employer or other person in charge of the workplace to their presence; and
 - (ii) shows their authorisation upon request.
- (b) Clause 11.1.2(a)(i) does not apply if the authorised industrial officer establishes that the employer or other person in charge is absent.
- (c) A person must not obstruct or hinder any authorised industrial officer exercising their right of entry.
- (d) If the authorised industrial officer intentionally disregards a condition of clause 11.1.2 the authorised industrial officer may be treated as a trespasser.

11.1.3 Inspection of records

- (a) An authorised industrial officer is entitled to inspect the time and wages record required to be kept under

section 366 of the Act.

- (b) An authorised industrial officer is entitled to inspect such time and wages records of any former or current employee except if the employee:
 - (i) is ineligible to become a member of the Union; or
 - (ii) is a party to a QWA or ancillary document, unless the employee has given written consent for the records to be inspected; or
 - (iii) has made a written request to the employer that the employee does not want that employee's record inspected.
- (c) The authorised industrial officer may make a copy of the record, but cannot require any help from the employer.
- (d) A person must not coerce an employee or prospective employee into consenting, or refusing to consent, to the inspection of their records by an authorised industrial officer.

11.1.4 *Discussions with employees*

An authorised industrial officer is entitled to discuss with the employer, or a member or employee eligible to become a member of the Union:

- (a) matters under the Act during working or non-working time; and
- (b) any other matter with a member or employee eligible to become a member of the Union, during non-working time.

11.1.5 *Conduct*

An authorised industrial officer must not unreasonably interfere with the performance of work in exercising a right of entry.

11.2 Time and wages record

11.2.1 An employer must keep, at the place of work in Queensland, a time and wages record that contains the following particulars for each pay period for each employee, including apprentices and trainees:

- (a) the employee's award classification;
- (b) the employer's full name;
- (c) the name of the award under which the employee is working;
- (d) the number of hours worked by the employee during each day and week, the times at which the employee started and stopped work, and details of work breaks including meal breaks;
- (e) a weekly, daily or hourly wage rate - details of the wage rate for each week, day, or hour at which the employee is paid;
- (f) the gross and net wages paid to the employee;
- (g) details of any deductions made from the wages; and
- (h) contributions made by the employer to a superannuation fund.

11.2.2 The time and wages record must also contain:

- (a) the employee's full name and address;
- (b) the employee's date of birth;
- (c) details of sick leave credited or approved, and sick leave payments to the employee;
- (d) the date when the employee became an employee of the employer;
- (e) if appropriate, the date when the employee ceased employment with the employer; and

- (f) if a Casual Employee's entitlement to long service leave is worked out under section 47 of the Act - the total hours, other than overtime, worked by the employee since the start of the period to which the entitlement relates, worked out to and including 30 June in each year.

11.2.3 The employer must keep the record for 6 years.

11.2.4 Such records shall be open to inspection during the employer's business hours by an inspector of the Department of Industrial Relations, in accordance with section 371 of the Act or an authorised industrial officer in accordance with sections 372 and 373 of the Act.

11.3 Union encouragement

Clause 11.3 gives effect to section 110 of the Act in its entirety. Consistent with section 110 a Full Bench of the Commission has issued a Statement of Policy on Union Encouragement (reported 165 QGIG 221) that encourages an employee to join and maintain financial membership of the Union.

11.3.1 Documentation to be provided by employer

At the point of engagement, an employer to whom this Award applies shall provide employees with a document indicating that a Statement of Policy on Union Encouragement has been issued by the Commission, a copy of which is to be kept on the premises of the employer in a place readily accessible by the employee.

The document provided by the employer shall also identify the existence of a Union encouragement clause in this Award.

11.3.2 Union delegates

Union delegates and job representatives have a role to play within a workplace. The existence of accredited Union delegates and/or job representatives is encouraged.

The employer shall not unnecessarily hinder accredited Union delegates and/or job representatives in the reasonable and responsible performance of their duties.

11.3.3 Deduction of union fees

Where arrangements can be entered into, employers are encouraged to provide facilities for the deduction and remittance of Union fees for employees who signify in writing to their employer, their desire to have such membership fees deducted from their wages.

11.4 Posting of Award

A copy of this Award shall be displayed in a readily accessible and convenient place on the Employer's property.

Dated 17 June 2003.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] E. EWALD,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 18 August 2003