



# AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

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## MEDIA RELEASE

29 October 2011

# Enough is enough – Immediate Govt intervention needed on Qantas dispute

The grounding of the Qantas fleet requires immediate intervention by the Federal Government to end industrial disputes involving the airline.

AHA National CEO Des Crowe said the Government now has no choice but to take immediate action.

“The grounding of the Qantas fleet will have an immediate and devastating impact on the tourism industry during what is traditionally one of the busiest times of the year for many hotels”, said Mr Crowe.

“The Government has been very patient in allowing Qantas and the unions involved to reach agreement, but now there is no choice but to act immediately to end the dispute.

“The provisions for Government intervention under the Fair Work Act exist to deal for the very purpose of dealing with a crisis such as this. The Government simply must act and it must do so immediately.

“The impact of this will be felt by thousands of hotels in all parts of Australia, but particularly by those in regions where there are no Jetstar services and a small presence from other airlines. More importantly is the impact on tens of thousands of employees who don’t work for Qantas but who now face lost wages and employment uncertainty as a result of this dispute.

“Already this afternoon, tens of thousands of travellers have had their Spring Carnival travel plans thrown into chaos. The hotels and other businesses relying on this peak tourism period will now miss out as a result.

“I also urge Virgin Australia to show restraint in its pricing while the Qantas fleet is grounded. For the hotel sector it is important that people are not turned away completely from air travel.”

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