



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **DUTY FREE WORKERS TO TAKE INDUSTRIAL ACTION**

Duty free staff at Melbourne Airport will walk off the job on Friday after rejecting their latest employment offer, the National Union of Workers said today.

NUW Victorian Secretary, Tim Kennedy said staff voted unanimously to take industrial action after seven months of negotiation with Duty Free owners, the Nuance Group, broke down.

"We apologise to school holiday travelers planning to stock up on Duty Free this Friday, but we don't take this action lightly," Mr Kennedy said.

"The Duty Free pay offer is about half the \$26 a week that Fair Work Australia awarded to minimum wage earners last month.

"It's just not good enough for a multi-national corporation to be treating workers this way," he said.

Mr Kennedy said the predominantly female staff was also concerned by the aggressive management culture.

"Staff who stand up for their rights are bumped to graveyard shifts or taken off better paying weekend shifts," Mr Kennedy said.

"Many feel intimidated and pressured by management.

"The stores are open 24/7 and recent roster changes have hit many staff trying to balance work and family."

Mr Kennedy said the sales staff would stop work for four hours at 5am and at 6pm on Friday 9 July.

Workers in the Duty Free airport warehouse will cease the transfer of goods to the terminal stores indefinitely.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT BRENT HOOLEY 0434 561 033**

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