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Australian Services Union
Queensland (Services and Northern Administrative Branch)

Queensland Services Union

MEDIA RELEASE



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Tuesday, 7 February 2012.

Queensland Jobs to Disappear at QR National IT functions sent offshore and interstate

Queensland Rail (QR) National yesterday announced a proposal to slash 54 Queensland jobs by outsourcing their IT function to multinational giant Fujitsu.

The move comes after months of uncertainty as the company 'tested the market' for external suppliers.

Jennifer Thomas, Assistant Branch Secretary of the Australian Services Union (ASU) who represents the workers, said that the announcement 'was a slap in face for Queensland workers'.

"The vast majority of these outsourced jobs will now be performed offshore and in other states of Australia" said Ms Thomas.

"What was once a jewel in the crown of Queensland companies may as well now change their name to International, as they certainly show scant regard for the workers of this State. We are told by management that the savings from the move will be 'considerable', but at what cost to Queensland?"

"This is a company that made \$350 million last year and pays their executives millions, most of the money being made by transporting Queensland coal and freight. Yet when it comes to maintaining the job security of Queenslanders the company simply isn't interested".

Ms Thomas said that the cuts come on top of a number of further job losses during the past year.

"Barely a week goes by when we are not advised of a restructure at QR National" she said.

"The job losses appear to be a death by a hundred cuts, and given some of the public statements by management we expect that this is only the beginning," Ms Thomas said.

Staff and unions have been given less than a fortnight to comment on the proposals, with the implementation date slated for 1 March 2012.

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