



The Retailers Association

Serving Members Australia Wide™

MEDIA RELEASE

TELEPHONE: 1300 721 730

FACSIMILE: 1300 554 552

EMAIL:
info@theretailersassociation.com.au

WEBSITE:
www.theretailersassociation.com.au

BRISBANE:

Suite 3, 321 Kelvin Grove Road
KELVIN GROVE QLD 4059

PO Box 105
KELVIN GROVE BC QLD 4059

MELBOURNE:

Level 27
101 Collins St
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

SYDNEY:

Level 57
MLC Centre
19-29 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

ADELAIDE:

Level 24
Westpac House
91 King William St
ADELAIDE SA 5000

PERTH:

Level 28
AMP Tower
140 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

ABN: 53 009 660 495

Latest Garrett Stuff Up Hits Retailers Too

Driscoll – “Class action and compensation must be on the cards”

Wednesday, 24 February 2010

Peak national industry body, **The Retailers Association**, is calling on the Prime Minister to step in and take immediate action in regards to the insulation debacle as the effects of a so called economic ‘stimulation’ program turn into a job destroying disaster for small business and retail.

Scott Driscoll, National Executive Director of The Retailers Association has said the economic reverberations and multiplier effects of the scheme being stopped dead were having immediate and disastrous consequences for small business and retailers right across Australia.

“The tragic loss of four young Australian lives is now being followed by economic disasters in the form of a ripple effect right across the small business and retail sector of Australia. We are talking about industries outside the immediate installation work where single operators have been left scratching their heads with up to \$100,000 worth of stock. We are talking about hardware retailers, manufacturers, delivery drivers, salespeople, administration staff,” said Mr Driscoll.

“If the Rudd Government thinks this is only hurting installers then they are severely mistaken. The negative multipliers of this debacle are being felt right across the small business community. We have members in the hardware retail industry in this country, which is worth between \$24 and \$36 billion, and they’re directly affected by this massive stuff up”

Mr Driscoll said the policy failure was another one in a long line of poor policy decisions that was undermining business confidence and crippling the small business and retail sector. He cited the possibility of widespread class actions in calling on the Prime Minister to “show some ticker” and deal with the Minister responsible.

“I am talking to business owners daily and there are job losses stemming directly from this. Not only are they having to navigate the confusing IR laws and the threat of the ETS tax affecting their livelihoods, but now they are suffering the ultimate cost of jobs losses due directly to the incompetence of a Government Minister who ignored all the warnings,” said Mr Driscoll

“There has been no plan, there has been no real offer of industry compensation and there has been no accountability. Just more job losses and pain for working Australians,” said Mr Driscoll

For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.