



**United Retail Federation**

*Serving Members Australia Wide™*

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Retailers Call on Federal Funding for Nationwide CCTV Security

**Driscoll – “It’s a War Zone out there Prime Minister! When will you join us in battle?”**

*Thursday, April 1, 2010*

**TELEPHONE:** 1300 721 730

**FACSIMILE:** 1300 554 552

**EMAIL:**  
info@unitedretailfederation.com.au

**WEBSITE:**  
[www.unitedretailfederation.com.au](http://www.unitedretailfederation.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

**Scott Driscoll**, National Executive Director of the **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing the retail sector has today called on the Rudd Government to fund a nationwide CCTV Retail Security Programme as to combat “a crime problem that is so out of control across the country that it is of national importance to address it” and labeling it a “War Zone”.

The call comes on the back of an escalation in retail crime across Australia with Mr Driscoll saying that the time had now come for the Rudd Government to step in and address the issue. Mr Driscoll added that his organisation would be pushing for a National Retail Security Forum to be held and has called on the nation’s Attorneys-General and Police Ministers to “get real” on the issue.

“The retail sector across Australia is under attack. We are calling for an immediate response from the Commonwealth to look at the implementation of a closed circuit television camera programme in targeted crime hot spots for retailers and small businesses,” Mr Driscoll said.

Mr Driscoll said small business and retailers were shocked to learn that security programmes implemented in the past by the Howard Government had been scrapped. The debate on CCTV programmes was recently reignited as a policy issue on Wednesday when Opposition Leader Tony Abbott called on the Prime Minister to reintroduce a Howard Government community safety programme\*.

“Without a doubt, my members have indicated that those programmes that have taken place in shopping centres and retail outlets in the past have worked extremely well. They are astonished to learn that the Rudd Government has no plans to address this issue because they have to work in a criminal war zone every day without any assistance.

“It is high time this issue was taken seriously because not only is it damaging to the local economy it is having a huge effect on peoples’ lives. I really don’t think any Government in this country would want to see retailers having to arm themselves with guns, pepper spray or other self defence measures but make no mistake that is happening and will continue to happen if this issue is not addressed immediately.”

\*<http://www.liberal.org.au/Latest-News/2010/03/31/Abbott-Doorstop.aspx>

**For further comment contact Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.**