

QF049/2007

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# ❖ NOTICE ❖

**TO: ALL QANTAS LAME MEMBERS**

**RE: CORDLESS HEADSET IMPLEMENTATION**

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This Notice should be read in conjunction with Notice Ref: QF: 047/2007 (One Man Pushbacks-Safety Incidents) The ALAEA has been informed that the trial implementation of the cordless headsets used in towing and the receipt and dispatch of aircraft has encountered some problems.

The main issue relates to interference whilst in use at SIT where the trial was undertaken. The manufacturer was consulted and a radio frequency survey of the Sydney Airport region discovered a clash with other operating systems recently installed. As a solution the headsets used in Sydney will have the frequency adjusted from the 1.9 gigahertz to the 2.4 gigahertz operating range which the manufacturer advises should solve any more interference issues. This modification is internal and will not result in any operational changes, functional capabilities or changes to the associated training packages.

Subsequently, as the headsets are being implemented in Adelaide next with Perth to follow the same radio frequency survey is taking place in each port and only affected headsets will require modification. Qantas expects all ports to be supplied and operational before Christmas.

The cordless headsets are designed to improve communication and hence the safety of personnel during aircraft movements. Qantas will advise the ALAEA when Risk Assessments and amendments to the Local Area Procedures have been completed for all ports. The ALAEA will then review this information.

Until this review has taken place the Federal Executive still maintains its recommendation of two man push backs.

The LAME on the headset is ultimately the person in charge and must be granted any additional personnel to facilitate aircraft movements upon request.

  
STEPHEN PURVINAS  
Federal Secretary

"To undertake supervise and certify for the safety of all who fly."