

MESSAGE
FROM PRIME
MINISTER
JULIA GILLARD



NOTHING is more important to Australian families than jobs. A job means security and dignity. It means opportunity. It's great to see Leader playing such a strong role in the community.

Australia's already got a great record on jobs. Our unemployment rate is just 5.1 per cent – the envy of the developed world.

Since 2007, we have created 700,000 jobs. And with over \$400 billion of major projects in the pipeline, there are even more jobs to come.

Sometimes jobs demand qualifications that workers can't meet. And for those who've never had the benefit of work, getting that first job can seem like climbing a mountain.

So I want all Australians to know they will not be left to face these challenges alone. We're creating thousands of new training places so people get the skills they need. We're giving the unemployed intensive support to break into the labour market and we are helping families take advantage of jobs in the mining sector if that's where they choose to go.

I congratulate News Limited and the *Leader* for taking a stand to help more people get a job. By connecting people to jobs, you're playing a great part in giving Australians a go.

Nissan's job drive

NISSAN Australia is the first company to throw support behind Jobs 1001, pledging to hire an extra 400 workers at dealerships across Australia over the next three years.

Defying gloomy economic news, Nissan's national training manager, Garry Doyle, said the company wanted to train and graduate 200 auto apprentices and 200 sales cadets by 2015.

The company has started the recruitment process and called on

prospective employees to apply through Jobs 1001.

Despite the problems plaguing rival Toyota, which culled 350 workers from its Altona plant this year, Mr Doyle said Nissan was confident about the future.

He said the company's global market share had risen in the past two years to 6.2 per cent and it was aiming to increase this to 8 per cent within four years.

Mr Doyle, who is based at

Nissan's Dandenong South office, said that meant more people were needed to sell and service the cars arriving by the boatload for sale in Australia.

He said there was a severe shortage of qualified auto technicians across the industry and welcomed Jobs 1001 as a great initiative to boost numbers.

"We need to inject some positivity back into the Aussie jobs market and this is a great way

to do it," he said. The company wants to hire sales cadets and auto apprentices at dealerships in every state.

And there will be special incentives to prospective employees, including attractive new car lease deals, fast-tracked apprenticeships and in-house awards.

To register your interest in Nissan jobs email your details to nissjobs@jobs1001.org.au



Technical trainer Anthony Frederiksen works with aspiring apprentice Sarah Balsillie of Carrum Downs at the Nissan Training Centre in Dandenong.
Picture: JASON SAMMON N37SE403

For the latest in local jobs turn to CareerOne, p38

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Job loss protesters head for Nissan HQ

By CASEY NEILL

WORKERS at Nissan's Dandenong South parts warehouse will fly to Japan in a bid to keep their jobs.

Joe Doherty and his colleagues found out at 1pm on Friday 3 July that Nissan would outsource to CEVA Logistics.

"I'm 58 so I don't know how I'll get another job," he said.

Mr Doherty said workers felt so strongly they were considering a trip to Nissan's head office in Japan to confront management about the decision and ask them to reverse it.

There'll be about 40 redundancies at Dandenong South and 58 across Australia.

"This is how strong we feel about saving our jobs," shop steward Judi Blackwell said.

"This is not part of the automotive industry collapse. Warehousing is alive and strong.

"We've met all our KPIs. We always meet our targets.

"This is about Nissan outsourcing for cheaper labour."

Ms Blackwell said some staff had worked at the warehouse for 25 years.

"They're currently releasing the new Navara. Even right now the people are out there on the floor working so hard to get to the dealers the parts that are required for this new car," she said.

"While the people are out there working hard they're outsourcing.

"None of these people will find another job. There are no jobs in the south-east.

"We hope that they'll reconsider. That's the best case scenario. We're going to give it a shot."

Rob Classon has worked at the warehouse for six years.



Shop steward Judi Blackwell has slammed Nissan's plans. 141394

Picture: KIM CARTMELL

"We work hard to get the product out for the customers and this is how they treat us - throwing us on the s*** pile."

"I'm 48 this year and it's going to be tough for me to go out and find another job."

Ngoc Tran has a seven-week-old baby and Alistair Gayles spent six years in casual employment before securing a full-time position at Nissan. "It's as busy as it's ever been here," he said.

"We want to stay loyal. We want to work at Nissan."

Narre Warren man Alex Plain said most employees had a lease car deal with the company.

He only recently sold his car to take up the offer and convinced his

partner to do the same. "Now we've got to go out and buy new cars," he said. "This job meant everything to me.

"It leaves me back in the rat race like a lot of other Australians who can't get full-time work.

"Things are just getting tougher."

Shop steward Tom Costello, a Nissan employee for four years, said CEVA was unlikely to maintain the warehouse.

"The operations will probably move to one of their facilities. I think it will probably head to the western suburbs," he said.

In a statement, Nissan Australia said the change followed a parts warehousing and logistics operations review.

It concluded Nissan could only improve its competitiveness in these areas through significant investments in distribution and IT infrastructure, and property upgrades to meet increasingly stringent safety, technical and environmental compliance.

But Mr Doherty said management knew long ago that improvement works were needed and didn't spend the money.

The statement also said Nissan had offered staff assistance relating to re-employment outside Nissan.

Workers will stage a rally at Nissan, corner Frankston-Dandenong Road and Quality Drive, Dandenong South, on Saturday 11 July at 10.30am.