



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

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[Archive](#)

SCCA SUBMISSION ON TRADING HOURS FOR DURABLE CONSUMER GOODS IN WA

The Shopping Centre Council has lodged a [submission](#) on the [Issues Paper](#) released last month by the WA Government on 'white goods and other consumer durable goods', proposing options for allowing retailers of 'consumer durable goods', or 'bulky goods', to trade on Sundays ([Shop Talk 8/10/10](#)). The submission argues there is no justification for creating a special and discriminatory regime for retailers of these types of goods. The Issues Paper fails to adequately define such goods and also fails to establish an effective, efficient and equitable legislative model for implementing such a proposal.

SA GOVERNMENT CLARIFIES OPERATION OF NEW RENT THRESHOLD

New [Retail and Commercial Regulations](#) have been gazetted in South Australia ([Shop Talk 3/9/10](#)), including a new rent threshold of \$400,000 pa for determining coverage by the [Retail and Commercial Leases Act](#). The SA Government has now clarified that the new threshold will only apply to new retail shop leases made on or after 4 April 2011. The increased threshold will not apply to a lease renewed under a right of renewal conferred prior to 4 April 2011. The Government has also clarified that the new rent threshold is inclusive of GST wherever GST is payable.

LATEST ISSUE OF INSIDE RETAILING MAGAZINE IS NOW AVAILABLE

The latest issue of *Inside Retailing Magazine* is now available and this issue includes features on the new Westfield Sydney and the transformation of Coles retail operations. Subscriptions can be obtained at: subs@octomedia.com.au or by phoning (02) 8224 8300.

NSW GOVERNMENT CONFIRMS BOXING DAY TRADING IN THE SYDNEY CBD

For decades retailers in the Sydney CBD have been able to trade on Boxing Day under a special provision of the old *Shops and Industries Act* which was 'grandfathered' when the *Shop Trading Act 2008* was introduced. The ability of all shops within the CBD was threatened this year, with the expiry in July of a special regulation passed in 2009. The NSW Government has now [announced](#) legislation which confirms the ability of all shops in a 'Sydney Trading Precinct' to open on Boxing Day. The 'Sydney Trading Precinct' includes the CBD, Broadway, Pyrmont and Bondi Junction (which were the areas covered by the special regulation) and this will be defined by a regulation made under the Act (the [Bill](#) is currently before Parliament). The Government has also announced that it will legislate to ensure employees will have the choice to work on Boxing Day and four other 'restricted trading days'.

The SCCA does not support special trading precincts, believing there should be a level playing field for all retailers, but recognises it would have been unfair to withdraw the long-standing practice of CBD retailing. Premier Keneally has said that "Boxing Day sales are becoming more and more popular with NSW shoppers and provide a major boost to the NSW economy". Hopefully this means legislators will extend this privilege to the rest of Sydney and NSW, in line with Victoria, Tasmania, the ACT, the NT, Perth and South-East Queensland.

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR RETAIL STUDIES WORLD RETAIL CONGRESS BREAKFAST

The Australian Centre for Retail Studies will host a breakfast on 23 November in Sydney and 24 November in Melbourne on key presentations from the recent World Retail Congress. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.