

# Fisher & Paykel Appliances Holdings Limited

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## **Fisher & Paykel Workers Back to 40 Hour Week**

Fisher & Paykel Appliances Auckland refrigeration workers today voted to return to a 40 hour week after the Government's Job Support Scheme helped save 60 jobs in the company.

In a joint announcement, the Minister of Social Development and Employment Paula Bennett and Fisher & Paykel Appliances CEO, John Bongard said the Kiwi manufacturer was withdrawing from the scheme which saw 350 workers reduce their working week to 35 hours.

"Although all markets remain tough in terms of trading, the East Tamaki plant, coming into its traditional peak production season, has sufficient orders going forward to enable it to return to normal working hours. The Job Support Scheme has been pivotal in allowing us to keep our skilled assembly line workers employed through the recent slump," said Mr Bongard.

"Our company's also grateful for the support of the Engineering, Printing and Manufacturers Union as we worked through our difficulties," he said.

Fisher and Paykel joined the Job Support Scheme in early April and has received just over \$123,000 of government funding. Under the agreement, staff worked a 35 hour week. This was supplemented with an additional 3.5 hours of pay made up of both government and the company's contribution and staff took 1.5 hours a week paid leave.

'This is fantastic news for Fisher and Paykel and for the 60 people whose jobs have been saved.

"I'm very happy that one of the first companies to take up this help from the government is now in the position to return to a normal 40 hour working week for its manufacturing employees," said Ms Bennett.



J H Bongard  
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director