



Press statement

Date issued: 27 October 2015

Peter Bruce, chair of the Caterers Offshore Trade Association, said: “We are pleased that RMT members have voted no to strike action although we recognised they voted yes to industrial action short of a strike.

“Across the Unite and RMT ballots only 290 employees (9%) voted in favour of taking part in strike action out of a total workforce of over 3000.

“We believe that the majority of our workforce are acutely aware of the economic situation in which we now find ourselves and understand that a pay freeze is not only fair but is also vital in ensuring the future of our industry.

“We look forward to meaningful discussions with the unions on Monday 2 November and hope that we can find a resolution which will be of benefit to all parties. There can be no winners from strike action.”

Ends

Notes to editors

For further information please contact Ailsa Nicol or Andrew Jones at Weber Shandwick on 01224 806600 or anicol@webershandwick.com / Andrew.jones@webershandwick.com.

About COTA

The Caterers Offshore Trade Association (COTA) represents six companies which supply catering and auxiliary staff to offshore platforms in the North Sea – Aramark, Entier, ESS, FOSS & ESG, Sodexo and Trinity International Services.

Together we employ almost 3000 staff, including chefs, stewards and administrative team members.

COTA was established over 20 years ago to represent member companies to agree terms and conditions for staff employed by COTA companies and encourage members to work collaboratively on health and safety requirements (HSEQ).

Terms and conditions of employment are negotiated with representatives of Unite and RMT of which some of our staff are members.