

# **The need for a tough cop on the beat**

**Christopher Platt**

**Director, Workplace Policy**



# Building Industry Compliance Arrangements

1986 BLF Deregistered

1992 Gyles Royal Commission

1991 NSW Building Industry Taskforce created

1995 NSW Building Industry Taskforce disbanded

2001 Cole Royal Commission begins

2002 Interim Building Industry Taskforce created following  
Royal Commission interim report

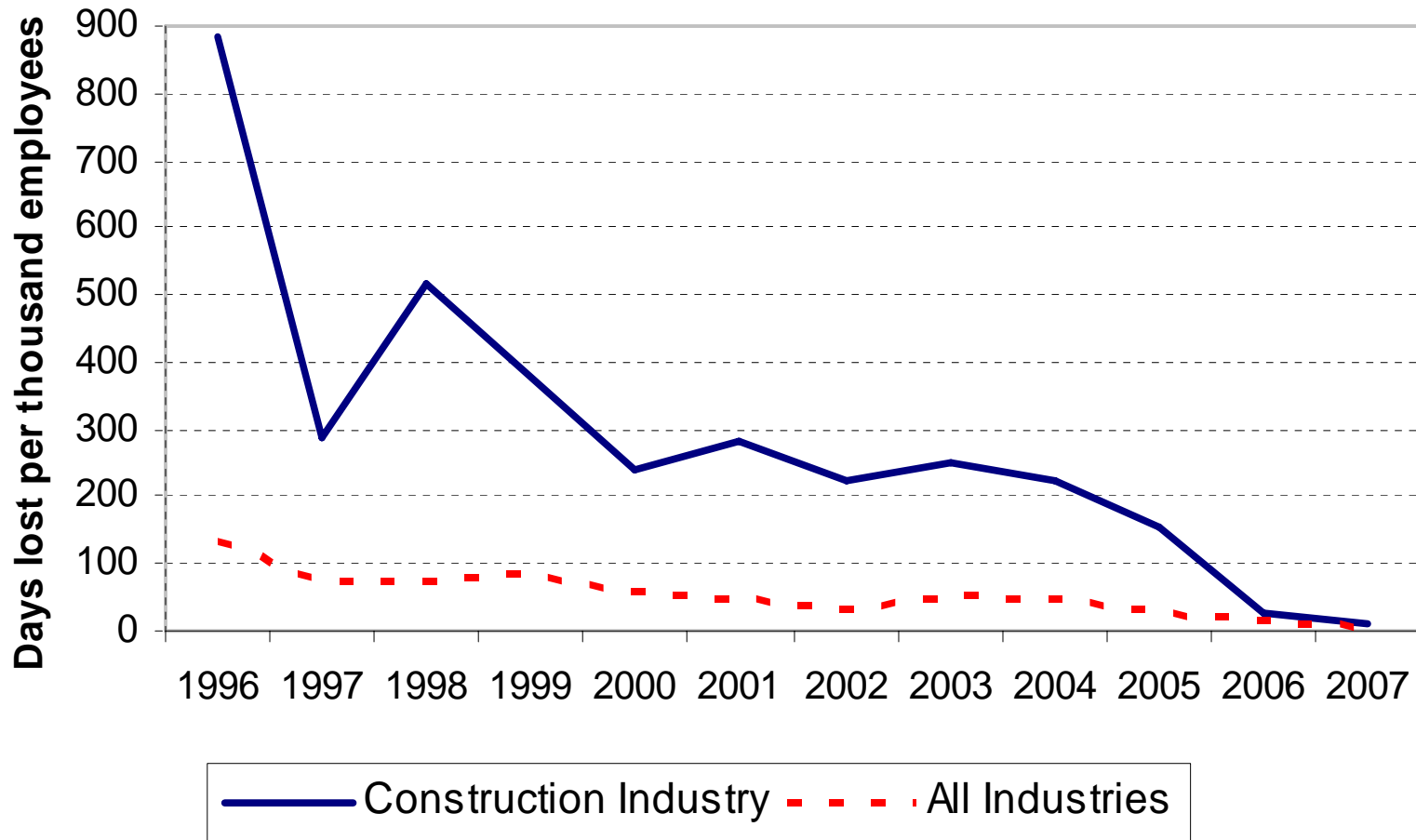
2003 Cole Royal Commission reveals widespread lawless  
culture

2005 ABCC replaces Taskforce – productivity begins  
to climb

2010 ABCC disbanded



# Record low levels of industrial disputes....



The background of the image shows a construction site at dusk or dawn. A large tower crane is silhouetted against a light, hazy sky. Below the crane, the skeletal steel frame of a multi-story building is visible, with various structural elements and scaffolding. The overall scene is in silhouette, emphasizing the geometric forms of the construction equipment and structure.

**“Fair Work Australia’s  
Inspectorate will have  
specialist divisions that can  
focus on persistent or  
pervasive unlawful  
behaviour”**

**Forward With Fairness**

A yellow mining truck cab is the central focus of the image. A person wearing a dark jacket and a hard hat is visible in the driver's seat. The truck is positioned in front of a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the image in white, bold font.

**Why should the resources sector care?**

**341 mining construction projects**

**97 advanced projects worth \$70.5 billion**

**Mining construction represents the largest increase in investment in the past five years**

# A Tough Cop or Toothless Tiger...

The statistics are good but has the culture changed?

Continued flouting of the law:

- coercion to join a union

- unlawful industrial action

- breaches of union right of entry provisions

**Tough enforcement and compliance powers are still necessary**