

## ISSUE NO 26

APRIL 2006

In issue 20 of ELECTRON I announced that a three year agreement had been reached with Standards New Zealand which enables the holders of valid Board practising licences to have access to Standards referenced in the Electricity Regulations 1997 and over which Standards New Zealand have jurisdiction.

The agreement is part of the Board/Electrical Workers Licensing Group overriding strategic initiative to make all information available to practising licence holders and is considered to offer added value to those people who support the practising licence system.

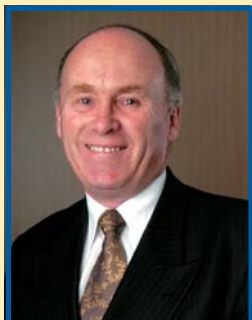
- There is no extra cost to practising licence holders in relation to the agreement.

The agreement also applies to people deemed to be trainees as defined in the Electricity Act 1992 and who hold trainee identification cards issued by the Board.

Trainee identification cards are issued free of charge by the Board to people who can show that they have a training agreement with either the Electrotechnology Industry Training Organisation (ETITO) or the Electricity Supply Industry Training Organisation (ESITO) and have completed safety training. The safety training is the same as that required for the issuing of practising licences.

The agreement with Standards New Zealand provides for the above mentioned practising licence holders and trainees to have access to the Standards New Zealand data base via the Internet to:

- view, download and print the electronic files of the Standards covered by the agreement and any amendments to those Standards;
- view, download and print the electronic files of any revisions (publication with new year) to the Standards covered by the agreement (with the exception of AS/NZS 3000 and AS/NZS 3760) that may be published during the term of the agreement.



**John Sickels**  
Registrar/Group Manager  
EWLG

## How can the Standards be accessed?

If you hold a valid Board practising licence or a trainee identification card issued by the Board and have your file key go to [www.ewrb.govt.nz](http://www.ewrb.govt.nz)

If you are unsure of your file key please telephone 0800 66 1000.

If you are a trainee you will only be issued with a file key if you have a trainee identification card. To obtain a trainee identification card you will need to apply for one using the enclosed application form.

When you reach [www.ewrb.govt.nz](http://www.ewrb.govt.nz) go to "Public Register and Standards" on the left side of the screen. Select Electrical Register/EW Services/NZ Standards. A search screen will be displayed.

Carry out a quick or a standard search to retrieve the file that you require and display that file on the File Key page.

Enter your file key and select Continue. A declaration screen will be displayed. This screen details the rules for access and use of the Standards New Zealand web site.

Access the Standards covered by the agreement.

To return to the Board's web site select the appropriate option from the menu on the left of the screen.

Please note that while you are logged on to the Standards New Zealand web site you can also use other facilities on that site, however those facilities may be subject to restrictions. Please contact Standards New Zealand if you require further information about the organisation's web site facilities.

Please also remember that the agreement with Standards New Zealand is a much valued one and as such all file keys issued by the Board should be treated in the same manner as PIN numbers for bank cards.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Agreement with Standards New Zealand

How can the Standards be assessed?

2006/2007 Relicensing

ELECTRON is published by the Electrical Workers Licensing Group, the service unit of the Ministry of Economic Development for the Electrical Workers Registration Board. If you have any enquiries or comments on this newsletter please contact:

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Safety • Competency

# PRACTISING LICENCE RENEWAL

The 2006/2007 annual practising licensing round will begin shortly. An information pack including the 2006/2007 application form will be sent to you during the last two weeks of May to allow plenty of time for you to apply for your new practising licence. We encourage you to apply for your licence online. Details of how to do this will be included in your information pack and via email, if you have provided us with a current email address.

Here are a few of the most commonly asked questions answered for your information:

## Why do I have to have a practising licence?

All registered electrical workers must hold a practising licence if they carry out prescribed electrical work for reward. This is a requirement of Section 95 of the Electrical Act 1992.

## What does this mean to me?

Most importantly, your valid practising licence tells your clients that you are a qualified electrical professional. It proves that you are legally allowed to carry out electrical work and that you are up to date on current safety procedures. Your practising licence is an important business tool. It gives the public (your clients) reassurance about your safety competency.

## Important Note:

If you know that your safety training will expire before 30 June 2006 – **Update it now!**

Expired or incomplete safety training is the most common reason for practising licence applications to be held up. Courses for training fill very quickly – “So beat the crowds and do it now!”

Safety training provider list can be assessed via [www.ewrb.govt.nz/contents/training.html](http://www.ewrb.govt.nz/contents/training.html)

## What do I have to do?

Look out for your personalised practising licence pack from mid May. This will be mailed to the latest address we have for you on the database.

When you receive the pack either;

1. Apply online following the instructions outlined in your pack and make payment by credit card for \$92 or
2. Complete the personalised practising licence application enclosed, sign and return with your cheque or credit card payment for \$92.

## What if I am not doing prescribed electrical work for reward and don't need a practising licence?

If you do not need a practising licence please tell us by sending the form back with the relevant details.

## What about my safety training?

To be eligible for a practising licence, your refresher courses for safe working practices, testing to ensure safety, basic first aid and CPR must be current. This requirement is detailed in Regulation 26 of the Electrical Regulations 1997.

