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A new agreement has been entered into with Standards New Zealand that enables holders of Board practising licences and trainees to have access to Standards.

This issue of the ELECTRON contains details of the new Agreement with Standards New Zealand.

Please remember the Agreement with Standards New Zealand is a valuable one and as such all file keys issued for access purposes should be treated in the same manner as PIN numbers for bank cards.

This issue of the ELECTRON also contains information on the new register that has been developed and it is envisaged that the new register will be operational early in 2010.

Availability of Documents

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EWLG



Safety • Competency

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

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Availability of documents

To enhance the question of accessibility and transparency of documentation and decisions of the Board, readers are reminded that agendas for Board meetings are posted on the Board's website at www.e wrb.govt.nz one week prior to any meeting. In addition meeting agendas and

minutes are available from the Registrar on request. Discussion papers and complaint hearing decisions that are not subject to Board Publication Orders are also available from the Registrar on request.

Development of the Electrical Workers Registration System

Work on the Electrical Workers Registration System is well underway, with the new system expected to be operational in February 2010.

This development completes the transfer of electrical workers' licensing and registration functions from the Ministry of Economic Development. The transfer started at the end of 2006 when the staff from the Electrical Workers Licensing Group moved to the Department of Building and Housing.

The second and final stage involves the development of a licensing and registration system and the migration of all the register information to this system by February 2010.

How the system will work for you

For electrical workers, the new system to be implemented by the Department will retain the same functions as the previous electrical workers' system. You will still be able to log on and:

- change your personal details
- complete your re-licensing applications

- go to secure parts of the Standards New Zealand website
- record your safety training
- make purchases at the online store and
- search the public register.

Current users will notice improvements, including a more user friendly website with improved search functions. In addition a number of new functions will be available including securely viewing examination results and completing and paying for Certificates of Compliance (COCs) online.

Electrical workers will be actively involved in the development of the system with three being invited to test the site prior to it going live. Their feedback will help us to ensure the system works for you.

Over the next two months we will be in touch with you to let you know about using the new system for the first time.

New Agreement with Standards New Zealand

Another agreement has been entered into for a further two years and the new Agreement enables the holders of valid Board practising licences to have access to documents relating to the electrical industry.

There will be no extra cost to practising licence holders in relation to the agreement.

The Agreement also applies to people deemed to be trainees as defined by the Electricity Act 1992 and who, at the present time, hold trainee identification cards issued by the Board or have been issued Trainee Limited Certificates.

The new Agreement provides for the abovementioned holders of practising licences and trainees to have access through the Internet to Standards New Zealand's database to view, download and print the electronic files of the documents covered by the Agreement.

Under the renewed agreement, Standards New Zealand will add the latest versions of revised and cited Standards as available.

Standards New Zealand will liaise with the Registrar to identify other, useful Standards that may be added to the catalogue over the coming year.

The following Standards are recent additions to those previously available under the Agreement;

- AS/NZS 3000:2007 *Electrical Installations* (with Amendment 1 incorporated)
- AS/NZS 3019:2007 *Electrical Installations – In-service testing*
- AS/NZS 2381.1:2005 *Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres – Selection, installation and maintenance – General requirements*
- AS/NZS 60335.2.98:2005 *Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Particular requirements for humidifiers*

How can the Standards be accessed

If you hold a valid Board practising licence or, at the present time, a trainee identification card issued by the Board and you have your file key go to the Board's website at www.ewrb.govt.nz

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

If you are a trainee, at the present time, 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 to the Board for one.

When you reach www.ewrb.govt.nz go to "Public Register and Standards".

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 website.

Access the Standards covered by the Agreement

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

Please note that while you are on the Standards New Zealand website 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 that organisation's website facilities.

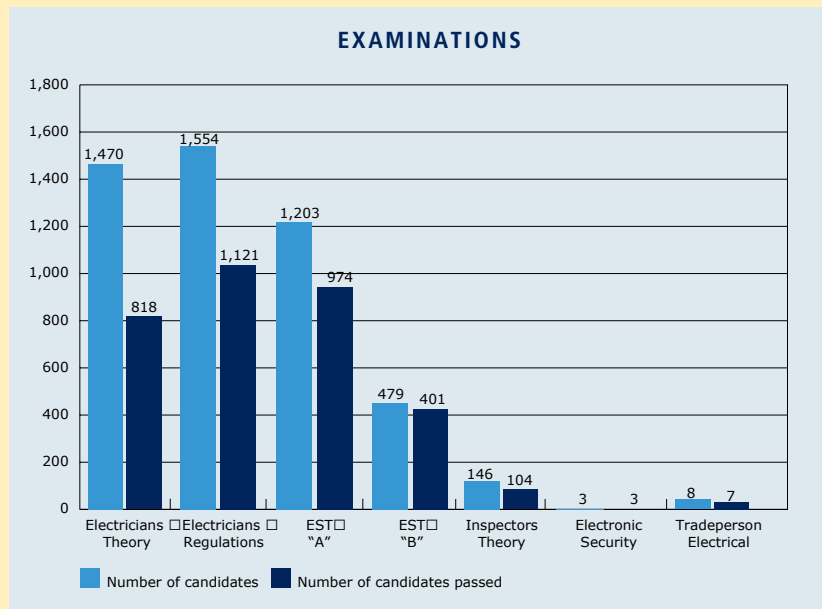
Please also remember that the Agreement with Standards New Zealand is a much valued one and as such all file keys issued by the Board should be treated in the same manner as PIN numbers for bank cards.

Examination Statistics

The Board has released its examination results for the 2008/2009 year.

A total of 4,863 candidates attempted Board exams during the year and 70% of these candidates achieved a pass result.

The following chart shows detail of the Board 2008/2009 examinations.



The Board has released reports for the May and June 2009 examination rounds.

In the May examination round candidates received an overall pass rate of 85% and EST B candidates received a pass rate of 95%.

The following chart summarises the results of the May 2009 examination round;

	Number of candidates	Number of candidates who passed	Percentage passed
ESTA	226	184	81
ESTB	79	75	95
Electronic security	1	1	100
Totals	306	260	85

In the June examination round candidates received an overall pass rate of 70%.

Candidate numbers for the electrician theory examination were the highest for the examination since June 2004.

This is the second year in which an electrical inspector examination was held in June and the pass rate of 58% for the examination was disappointing.

The following chart summarises the results of the June 2009 examination round.

	Number of candidates	Number of candidates who passed	Percentage passed
ESTA	292	241	82.5
ESTB	85	75	88
Electrician regulations	803	588	73
Electrician theory	695	422	61
Electrical inspector	57	33	58
Totals	1,932	1,359	70

The May and June 2009 examination reports are available for viewing on the Board's website at www.ewrb.govt.nz

Investigations Report

Recent investigations undertaken in relation to unregistered people working in contravention of the Electricity Act 1992 and/or the Electricity Regulations 1997 have resulted in a number of prosecutions. The following is a summary of recent prosecutions;

Prosecution 1

On 2 September 2009, Mr Martin Watson was convicted in the Upper Hutt District Court of one charge of doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work.

The work related to the installation of ceiling lights and rewiring of the circuit, at a residential property.

Mr Watson was fined \$1,000 and ordered to pay \$130 Court costs and \$250 Solicitor's costs.

Prosecution 2

On 10 September 2009, Mr Phillip William Cooke (of Cooke Electrical Limited) was convicted in the Christchurch District Court of one charge of doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work, over a period of nine days.

The work related to the rewiring of a substantial farm shed.

Mr Cooke was fined \$450 and was required to pay solicitor's costs of \$226.

Mr Cooke had earlier paid \$3,991.15 on behalf of the complainant to another electrician for necessary remedial work.

Prosecution 3

On 6 October 2009, Mr Greg Edwards was convicted in the Porirua District Court on one charges of doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work.

The work carried out was the installing and wiring a three way heat transfer system.

Mr Edwards was fined \$1,500 and was ordered to pay \$130 in Court costs.

Prosecution 4

On 30 September 2009, Mr Jason Kummer was convicted in the Gore District Court of two charges of doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work.

The work carried out was the wiring associated with two new hot water cylinders.

Mr Kummer was fined \$2,000 and was ordered to pay \$260 Court costs and \$250 Solicitor's costs.

What does a pre-employment course mean?

The following article has been provided by the Electrotechnology Training Organisation (ETITO)

Trainees from pre-employment courses at polytechnics around New Zealand will soon be finishing their courses and looking for apprenticeships. For employers looking at taking on an apprentice, they're worth considering. But what exactly are these courses and what skills can employers expect those who've completed them to have?

The content of pre-employment courses varies depending on which polytechnic is offering the training. Typically a pre-employment course covers the first year

of off-job training in an apprenticeship at Level 2. This covers workplace safety unit standards, along with electromagnetism theory, mathematics, and knowledge of e.m.f production. Many polytechnics now include basic employment skills and, to build on the practical component of their courses, an increasing number of polytechnics are including workshop skills too. By the time a trainee's finished a pre-employment course, they should have an understanding of workplace safety, and possess basic tools skills.



A pre-employment course also identifies the trainee's ability to cope with the kind of study that's required for an electrotechnology apprenticeship. Despite gaining many introductory skills, it's important that employers conduct the same thorough recruitment processes as they would take on any apprentice. It's a good idea to call their tutors, who can establish their suitability for an apprenticeship.

It's also important to keep in mind that a pre-employment course covers only the first year of the apprenticeship [which is solely off-job based]. So while trainees coming from a pre-employment course will have one less year of theory to complete, they still require the same amount of workplace assessment as if they'd come straight from school.

Many pre-employment trainees look for placements with an employer while they study, by taking on one of these trainees, not only will you provide them with industry insight, it can be a great way to conduct a 'working interview.'

If you'd like to know more about pre-employment courses, contact your ETITO training manager.

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Mike Grinder, Training Manager [Dunedin]
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Results of disciplinary hearings

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Nelson, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician transposed the phase and earth conductors when installing a socket-outlet in a garage.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened section 118(1)(d) of the Electricity Act 1992 by furnishing a false return by certifying work without testing that work in accordance with the regulations.

Note – The electrician did not carry out the work which was the subject of the complaint, but certified the work on a Certificate of Compliance.

The electrician was fined \$250.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from the Canterbury region, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician installed garden lights in a non-compliant manner.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 70(2) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to adequately identify conductors.

The electrician was censured and ordered to pay costs of \$500.00.

John Charles Baldwin (E19247)

A complaint was lodged against John Charles Baldwin, an electrician from Christchurch, by an employee of an electrical company.

It was alleged that Mr Baldwin transposed phase and neutral conductors while replacing a meter with a new smart meter.

The Board considered the complaint and found Mr Baldwin guilty of disciplinary offence in that he:

- Contravened regulation 69 of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to ensure an electrical installation was electrically safe.

Mr Baldwin was fined \$750.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Daryl Philip Evans (E245097)

A complaint was lodged against Daryl Philip Evans, an electrician from Christchurch, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that Mr Evans installed an air conditioning unit in a non-compliant manner, worked without a current practising licence and failed to complete a Certificate of Compliance.

The Board considered the complaint and found Mr Evans guilty of disciplinary offences in that he:

- Contravened section 118(1)(a) of the Electricity Act 1992 by compromising conductor insulation;
- Contravened section 118(1)(a) of the Electricity Act 1992 by failing to provide isolation for a fixed appliance;
- Contravened section 95 of the Electricity Act 1992 by carrying out prescribed electrical work while not being the holder of a current practising licence;
- Contravened regulation 39(5) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to complete a Certificate of Compliance within one day of completion of the work or termination of the contract for the work.

Mr Evans was fined \$1,150.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Marlborough, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician transposed the phase and neutral conductors when connecting a replacement service main within a mains entry box.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of disciplinary offences in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 37 of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to adequately test prescribed electrical work before connection to a supply of electricity;
- Contravened regulation 69 of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to ensure an electrical installation was electrically safe.

The electrician was fined \$1,500.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,500.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Marlborough, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician installed electrical circuits in a house in a non-compliant manner.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of disciplinary offences in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 70(1)(a) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to provide mechanical protection for a TPS cable supplying electricity to a socket-outlet;
- Contravened regulation 87(4) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by leaving exposed the rear terminals of a socket-outlet meaning the electrical installation had not been constructed or installed to take account of any special dangers (an electric shock) that it created to persons and property;
- Contravened regulation 26(3) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by working without completing a safety training refresher course within the preceding 24 months.

The electrician was fined \$500.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,500.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from South Taranaki, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician carried out prescribed electrical work in a non-compliant manner.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened section 118(1)(e) of the Electricity Act 1992 by directing or permitting an unauthorised person to carry out prescribed electrical work.

The electrician was fined \$500.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$250.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Manakau, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician carried out prescribed electrical work in a non-compliant manner and failed to complete and provide a Certificate of Compliance.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of disciplinary offences in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 39(5) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to complete a certificate of compliance within one day of completion of the work or termination of the contract for the work;
- Contravened section 118(1)(d) of the Electricity Act 1992 by furnishing a false return and by certifying work without testing that work in accordance with the regulations.

The electrician was censured, fined \$250.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$500.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Dunedin, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician carried out prescribed electrical work in a non-compliant manner and without a current practising licence.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of disciplinary offences in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 39(5) of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to complete a certificate of compliance within one day of completion of the work or termination of the contract for the work;
- Contravened section 95 of the Electricity Act 1992 by carrying out prescribed electrical work while not being the holder of a current practising licence.

The electrician was fined \$600.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Wellington, by an electrical inspector.

It was alleged that the electrician incorrectly reconnected a power supply by connecting the main neutral at the meter into the phase terminal causing the neutral system to become live.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 69 of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to ensure the reconnection of the power supply at the meter terminals was electrically safe.

The electrician was fined \$500.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Christchurch, by a homeowner.

It was alleged that the electrician installed down lights in a non-compliant manner.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened section 118(1)(d) of the Electricity Act 1992 by furnishing a return for electrical work that was non-compliant.

Note – The electrician did not carry out the work which was the subject of the complaint, but certified the work on a Certificate of Compliance.

The electrician was fined \$350.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.

Electrician

A complaint was lodged against an electrician from Christchurch, by an investigator from the Electrical Workers Licensing Group.

It was alleged that the electrician transposed phase and neutral conductors while replacing a meter with a new smart meter.

The Board considered the complaint and found the electrician guilty of a disciplinary offence in that the electrician:

- Contravened regulation 69 of the Electricity Regulations 1997 by failing to ensure an electrical installation was electrically safe.

The electrician was fined \$750.00 and ordered to pay costs of \$1,000.00.