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It is now three months since the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 were introduced and the Board has continued to work through a variety of matters associated with the new regulations. It is anticipated that in the near future the Board will be releasing discussion papers on competency programmes for practising licences, employer licensing and the integration of line mechanic examination and practical assessment.

This issue of ELECTRON contains details on a new Agreement with the Electrotechnology Training Organisation for the issuing of Limited Certificates for Trainees. Limited Certificates are an important and integral part of new regulations, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ITO for the time and effort put into this project.

A Gazette Notice which was published by the Board concerning the transitional arrangement for practising licence issuing is also reproduced in this issue of ELECTRON.



**John Sickels**  
Registrar/Manager 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.ewrb.govt.nz](http://www.ewrb.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.

## Competency programmes for the issuing of practising licences

The provisions of the superseded Electricity Regulations 1997 relating to the prerequisites for the issuing of Board practising licences were not carried through to the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 and as the Board wished to maintain the status quo for the 2010/2011 practising licence round the Board sought the approval of the Minister for Building and Construction to publish a Gazette Notice which set practising licence issuing requirements.

The following is the content of the Board's Gazette Notice:

### **Prescribed Transitional Requirements Relating to the Completion of Competency Programmes in Respect of Persons Applying for Practising Licences or Applying for Renewals of Practising Licences**

The Electrical Workers Registration Board has responsibility for the registration and licensing of electrical workers.

In accordance with section 85 of the Electricity Act 1992 (as amended by the Electricity Act 2006) the Electrical Workers Registration Board gives notice of the following requirements in relation to applications for practising licences or applications for the renewal of practising licences.

1. Applicants for a Practising Licence or Renewal of a Practising Licence from Registered Persons other than Registered Line Mechanics or Registered Cable Jointers.

This paragraph applies to the following classes of registration:

- Electrical Inspector
- Electrician
- Electrical Engineer
- Electrical Installer
- Electrical Service Technician
- Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)
- Electrical Appliance Serviceperson
- Associated Tradesperson

An applicant must have attended courses of instruction in the following matters within the period of two years immediately before the date of the application:

- (a) Safe working practices that are appropriate to work of the class or classes in respect of which the applicant is registered;

- (b) testing to ensure safety before commencing work of the class or classes in respect of which the applicant is registered and to ensure safety during and after the completion of such work;
- (c) basic first-aid; and
- (d) cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

2. Applicants for a Practising Licence or Renewal of a Practising Licence from Registered Line Mechanics or Registered Cable Jointers.

This paragraph applies to the following classes of registration:

- Line Mechanic
- Cable Jointer

An applicant must have attended courses of instruction as follows:

- (a) Within 14 months immediately before the date of the application, courses or refresher courses in the following:
  - (i) safe working practices appropriate to the work of a line mechanic;
  - (ii) testing to ensure safety before beginning, during, and after completion of that work; and
  - (iii) basic first aid;
- (b) within seven months immediately before the date of the application, a course or refresher course in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

This notice will remain in effect until 30 June 2011 unless earlier amended or revoked by the board.

# New teaching guidelines

Issue 52 of ELECTRON contained advice on new teaching guidelines for the following classes of registration:

- electrician
- electrical installer
- electrical service technician
- electrical appliance serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)
- electrical appliance service person.

The Board has now approved further teaching guidelines for:

- electrical engineer
- electrical inspector
- associated tradesperson

Copies of the new teaching guidelines will be forwarded to all training providers on the Board's mailing lists and the documents will also be available for viewing on the Board's website at [www.ewrb.govt.nz](http://www.ewrb.govt.nz)

## TECHNICAL AND GENERAL QUESTION CORNER

**Q I am an electrician doing wiring work in houses and I have been told that all my work must comply with Part 1 of AS/NZS 3000:2007. Is what I have been told correct?**

A Regulation 57 states that every installation that operates at low or extra low voltage must comply with either Part 1 or Part 2 of AS/NZS 3000:2007.

**Q I have looked through the new regulations and I can not see any regulation to do with safety training. Does this mean that I do not have to do any safety training for this years practising licence?**

A The conditions for the issue of practising licences were provided for in regulation 13 of the superseded Electricity Regulations 1997 and those conditions were not carried through to the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010. However on 10 June 2010 the Board published a Notice in the Gazette relating to the requirements for the completion of competency programmes in respect of people applying for or renewing practising licences. Full detail of the Notice is included in this issue of ELECTRON.

**Q Is the manufacturing of domestic electrical appliances prescribed electrical work and if not why not?**

A Prescribed electrical work is electrical work of the type described in clause 1 of Schedule 1 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 and electrical manufacturing work is not included in that clause. Therefore the manufacturing of domestic electrical appliances is not prescribed electrical work.

**Q Now that the new regulations are in place how much does a practising licence cost?**

A In accordance with regulation 93(3)(d) of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 the Board has set the fee for all classes of practising licences at \$92.

**Q Who is allowed to issue warrants of electrical fitness?**

A Regulation 78 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 lists the people who may issue warrants of electrical fitness and the list is summarised as follows;

- (a) an electrical inspector;
- (b) a person, who immediately before the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 came into force, was authorised by the Secretary to issue warrants of electrical fitness under regulation 97 of the superseded Electricity Regulations 1997;
- (c) a person who has certified prescribed electrical work on a connectable installation under regulation 66 of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations (2010). (Basically, the people who can certify prescribed electrical work in accordance with this provision are electrical inspectors, electricians and electrical engineers.

**Q. Why has the Board not let registered people know details of the new classes of registration?**

A The Board has made every effort to keep registered people informed of the new classes of registration by publishing an ELECTRON newsletter (Issue 51) and sending approximately 44,000 letters to registered people explaining the new classes.

**Q Why does the Board keep on changing the regulations and what is the reason why the latest change took place?**

A The Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010 were not made by the Board and a statement on how they were made is included on the front page of the regulations.

As stated in the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010, the new regulations consolidate and update the content of the regulations and bring them into alignment with the 2006 amendments to the Electricity Act 1992.

# New Agreement for the issuing of Limited Certificates



The Electrotechnology Training Organisation (ETITO) and the Board have entered into an Agreement for the issuing of Limited Certificates for Trainees. The Agreement provides for the issuing of the Certificates to Trainees with the least impediment to Trainees and the industry as a whole. Further information on the Agreement is contained in the following article which has been provided by the ETITO.

## GET YOUR APPRENTICE COVERED: TRAINEE LIMITED CERTIFICATES

ETITO's been considering the easiest way to get all of our current apprentices covered under the Trainee Limited Certificates required by the rules of the Board. So if you're training an apprentice, you don't have to worry. ETITO, your 'one-stop-shop' for training, has been working closely with the **EWRB** for some time now to streamline the process around registration and compliance.

### What's the change?

To put it simply, the **EWRB** now requires all apprentices doing prescribed electrical work [PEW] to apply for a Trainee Limited Certificate. To be eligible for the certificate, they must be in training for a qualification that results in registration. Apprentices must also have completed safety training [or be completing it within three months]. They will need to have this certificate if they wish to continue training as an apprentice\*.

The **EWRB** is determined not to create any undue barriers for people currently in training and so is allowing for a transition period to give apprentices enough time to comply with the new regulations, by applying for the Trainee Limited Certificates. That doesn't mean they can afford to delay; apprentices need to be covered under the new system as soon as possible.

### IMPORTANT: signed statement needed

ETITO already collects most of the information the **EWRB** needs to issue a Trainee Limited Certificate when a Training Agreement is signed. We're currently in the process of sending this to the **EWRB**, so the application process is essentially being handled by ETITO on behalf of the apprentice.

What we do need is a signed statement from the supervisor or employer which says the apprentice will be supervised in accordance with **EWRB** guidelines. ETITO needs to receive this before the **EWRB** can issue the Trainee Limited Certificate.

Visit [www.etito.co.nz/downloads](http://www.etito.co.nz/downloads) to find the statement form. Sign it along with your registration number, and fax it to ETITO at 09 525 2591, or post to PO Box 24469 Royal Oak, Auckland, 1345. Future Training Agreements will include this statement so that new apprentices will receive their certificates automatically at the beginning of their apprenticeship.

### Safety training requirements

As for the safety training requirements, ETITO is working on a stand-alone safety course to be delivered by training providers that all new apprentices will have to complete within the first three months of their apprenticeship. This course will be made up of unit standards that are in an apprenticeship already, but it means they'll be covered right from the start.

ETITO's qualifications team is also working with the **EWRB** on the teaching guidelines and core competencies of the new classes of registration. This work will result in changes to current and future qualifications, ensuring compliance with the new classes of registration. A new supervision unit standard will also be added to the qualifications, as supervision now falls under the definition of PEW.

**ETITO is working to ensure an easy transition to the new Trainee Limited Certificates. If you have any questions about the statement we require or about how we're making sure your apprentice is covered, contact your ETITO Training Manager.**

Terry Kidd – North Shore & Northland:	09 583 1338
Brett Piskulic – Central and West Auckland:	09 583 1344
Bob Thomas – South Auckland/Hamilton:	07 349 3461
Paul Mitchell – Rotorua:	07 349 3461
Paul Craven – Wellington:	04 499 7677
Marty Matheson – Christchurch:	03 365 9252
Mike Grinder – Dunedin:	03 479 2978

# Examination Dates for 2011

The Board has set its registration examination dates for 2011 and they are as follows;

## May 2011

**7 May 2011** Electrical Appliance Serviceperson  
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)

**14 May 2011** Electrical Service Technician  
Associated Tradesperson

## June 2011

**18 June** Electrical Appliance Serviceperson  
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)  
Electrical Installer Theory  
Electrician Theory  
Electrical Inspector

**25 June** Electrical Service Technician  
Associated Tradesperson  
Electrician Regulations

## September 2011

**10 September** Electrical Appliance Serviceperson  
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)

**17 September** Electrical Service Technician  
Associated Tradesperson

## November 2011

**19 November** Electrical Appliance Serviceperson  
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (endorsed to disconnect and connect)  
Electrical Installer Theory  
Electrician Theory  
Electrical Inspector

**26 November** Electrical Appliance Serviceperson  
Associated Tradesperson  
Electrician Regulations

NB: EAS (endorsed to disconnect and connect) and Associated Tradesperson will be created only if sufficient notice (ie 2 months) is given to the Board by Training Providers.

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## 2010/2011 Re-Licensing

2009/2010 Practising Licences expired on 30th June. Electrical workers who require a new licence should have received a Practising Licence renewal pack in the mail. It is important your next years licence is applied for as soon as possible. You are in breach of the Electricity Act if you are undertaking prescribed electrical work without a licence.

The fastest way to process your renewal is through the use of the online services at the Electrical Workers Register. Just follow the instructions below:

### How do I apply?

#### What you need before you start

1. A Credit Card (We accept Visa, MasterCard or Amex).
2. Your Username and Password.

#### Online Application

1. Go to <https://ewr.dbh.govt.nz/OnlineAccount/Login.aspx>
2. Select Online Forms tab.
3. Click on electrical worker re-licensing process under Online forms.
4. Read the Annual re-licensing page and press continue.

5. Check personal details, add required information and press continue.
6. Click on I wish to apply for a practicing licence.
7. Check and process Safety training and press continue.
8. Add credit card details for payment and enter.
9. Once completed successfully you can download your Invoice.
10. Press Continue to complete process.

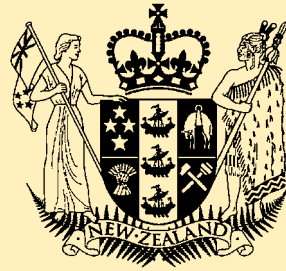
### If you DON'T require a Practising Licence...

#### What you need before you start

1. Your Username and Password.

#### Online Update

1. Go to <https://ewr.dbh.govt.nz/OnlineAccount/Login.aspx>
2. Select Online Forms tab.
3. Click on Electrical worker re-licensing process under Online forms.
4. Read the Annual re-licensing page and press continue.
5. Check personal details and add required information press continue.
6. Select No practicing licence is required at this time.



## Members of the Electrical Workers Registration Board

*The Minister for Building and Construction is seeking expressions of interest from people wishing to be considered for appointment as a member to the Electrical Workers Registration Board.*

The Board's statutory functions include registering electrical workers under the Electricity Act 1992, ensuring the competence of registered electrical workers and exercising disciplinary powers. The Board receives professional and administrative support services from the Department of Building and Housing.

This vacancy is required to be filled by a person who is registered or entitled to be registered under the Electricity Act 1992. In particular, the Minister is seeking candidates with electricity supply sector knowledge and experience.

In order to qualify for Board membership a person must be able to demonstrate:

- high level strategic thinking capabilities
- governance experience in a Board or Committee environment
- a commitment to promoting public interest and safety
- the desire to promote broad industry objectives.

It should be noted that there is a significant time commitment for members of the Board. The successful applicant will be required to make their self available for up to 50 days per year for considering papers and attending meetings. There are approximately 11 board meetings per year.

Remuneration is in line with State Services Commission guidelines with the Presiding Member and Members receiving \$655 and \$415 per day respectively. The term of appointment is for up to three years.

Further information and application forms are available on our website <http://www.dbh.govt.nz>, or please contact:

Judi Maddever, Advisor – Appointments & Governance, phone 04 817 4878 or email [governance@dbh.govt.nz](mailto:governance@dbh.govt.nz)

**Applications close 5pm, Friday 6 August 2010.**