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Welcome to the July edition of ELECTRON.

This issue highlights the new supervision procedures for trainees holding limited certificates, which came into effect on 4 July 2016; changes to the Electricity and Gas High Risk Database; the Board's final position on the review of classes of registration; and the Board's decision on provisions to enable licensed persons to work under supervision.

The Board is also continuing its work on the three workstreams I mentioned in the last edition of ELECTRON. There is an update on competence programme material in this issue and we hope to provide a further update on progress on all the workstreams in the next issue.

I would also like to take this opportunity to let everyone in the industry know that I have announced my retirement. After nearly 27 years as the Registrar, my last day will be on 19 August 2016. I have greatly enjoyed my time as Registrar, and I will miss the role and the challenges it has brought. In next month's edition, I hope to be able to tell you who will be stepping into the role.

JOHN SICKELS – REGISTRAR



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 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.

Would you like to receive ELECTRON electronically?

A large number of people now receive ELECTRON electronically. If you would like to receive the newsletter by electronic means please contact the Board on 0800 66 1000 to arrange.

If you have any enquiries or comments on this newsletter please phone 0800 66 1000 or email info@ewrb.govt.nz

Check/update your contact details.

To ensure that you don't miss any communications from the Board, please make sure you update your contact details as soon as they change. You can check what details we currently hold by logging in through the Electrical Worker login.

Supervision procedures for trainees holding a Limited Certificate

Issue 81 of ELECTRON contained information on the Board's review of its supervision procedures for trainees. Five submissions were received on the review and following consideration of all submissions the Board has;

- Removed the reference to the supervision of inspection work;
- Included more references to health and safety;
- Clarified who the supervision procedures apply to;
- Clarified the work a trainee holding a limited certificate can certify.

The main changes from the Board's supervision procedures dated 29 October 2010 are;

1. The levels of supervision required are clearly stated;
2. Trainees who hold limited certificates cannot supervise any other person who is doing or assisting with prescribed electrical work;
3. Work that can be supervised is listed by registration class;
4. Key legislative requirements are included;
5. The introduction of the ability for a trainee to provide an electrical safety certificate for some low risk work if their supervisor allows them to do so.

The new supervision procedures for trainees holding limited certificates are effective from 4 July 2016 and are available for viewing on the Board's website at www.ewrb.govt.nz

High Risk Database

The following article has been provided by WorkSafe New Zealand

THE Electricity and Gas High Risk Database will soon accept details of periodic inspections and Warrants of Electrical Fitness issued by Electrical Inspectors

Energy Safety is introducing the optional ability for Electrical Inspectors to enter details for periodic inspections, including WOEFs, required under the Electricity (Safety) Regulations into the Electricity and Gas High Risk Database from early June.

This data entry will initially be on a voluntary basis. However Energy Safety will consider whether to recommend that this data entry be made mandatory in a future amendment to the regulations.

The high-risk database will provide the ability to enter details for the following types of periodic inspection:

- Caravan parks installations
- Boat marinas installations
- Demolition and construction sites installations
- Carnivals and fair grounds installations
- Hazardous areas
- Electrical medical area, including mobile medical installations
- High voltage installations
- Alluvial mining or quarrying operations
- All Warrants of Electrical Fitness

The following screen shot shows what to expect when you log



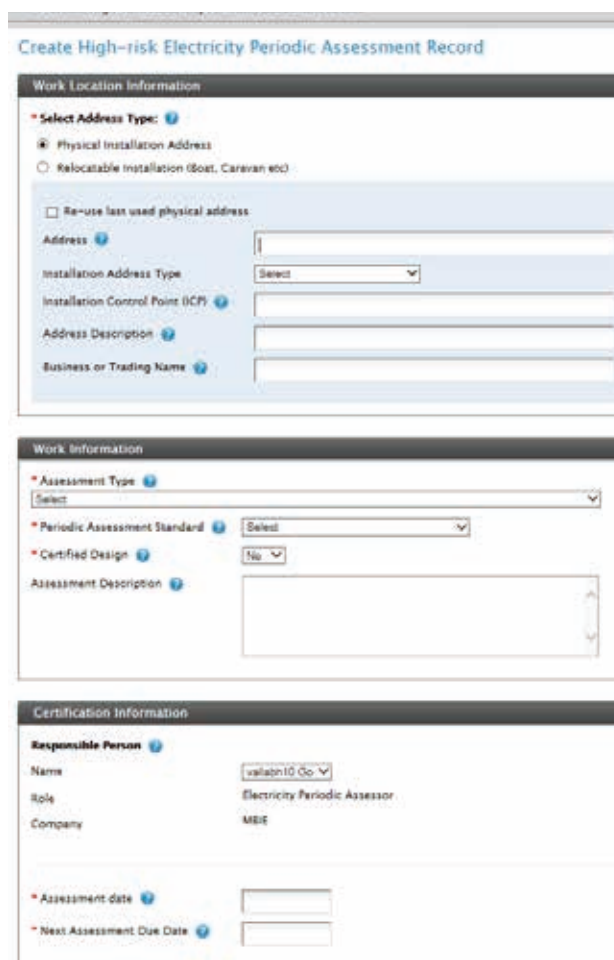
into your account. There are two main changes related to periodic inspections:



- You are now allowed to create a periodic inspection record by

selecting "Create High-risk *ELECTRICITY* Periodic Assessment Record".

- You can search your periodic assessment records by selecting High-risk Record Type "Electrical Periodic Assessment" or select "All record types" and get periodic and high-risk installation records.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Create High-risk Electricity Periodic Assessment Record". It is divided into three main sections:

- Work Location Information:** Includes a "Select Address Type" dropdown (options: Physical Installation Address, Relocatable Installation (Boat, Caravan etc)), a "Re-use last used physical address" checkbox, and input fields for Address, Installation Address Type, Installation Control Point (ICP), Address Description, and Business or Trading Name.
- Work Information:** Includes a dropdown for "Assessment Type", a dropdown for "Periodic Assessment Standard", a dropdown for "Certified Design" (options: No, Yes), and a text area for "Assessment Description".
- Certification Information:** Includes a dropdown for "Responsible Person" (selected: valabin10 Co), and input fields for "Assessment date" and "Next Assessment Due Date".

Registration class review

Previous Issues of ELECTRON (63, 65, 70, 74 and 76) made reference to the Board's review of classes of registration, requirements/standards for registration and associated work limits.

The Board has considered the submissions received and finalised its position in relation to the review. In summary, the Board has agreed to;

- Retain the generic registration class of electrician;
- Introduce a new registration class of mining electrician;
- Retain the generic registration class of electrical inspector;
- Introduce a new registration class of mining electrical inspector;
- Amend the requirements/standards for the registration class of electrical engineer and amend the limits of work for new registrants in the class;
- Amend the limits of work for the registration class of electrical installer;
- Amend the limits of work for the registration class of electrical service technician;
- Retain the registration classes of electrical appliance service person; (endorsed) and electrical appliance serviceperson;
- Replace the existing registration class of line mechanic and replace it with line mechanic registration classes of transmission, rail and distribution;
- Extend the limits of work for the new distribution line mechanics registration class and introduce an endorsement to the class which will permit the replacement of specific fittings;
- Introduce a new class of cable joiner;
- Introduce a new registration class of sub-station maintainer;
- Retain the associated tradespersons registration classes.

The Board now intends to seek the approval of the Minister for Building and Housing to issue a new Gazette notice which will set out the abovementioned classes of registration along with transitional arrangements.

Trainees issuing Electrical Safety Certificates

In issue 81 of ELECTRON information was provided on a Board proposal to enable trainees to issue Electrical Safety Certificates.

The Board has considered all submissions received on the discussion paper that was released and has agreed that;

- (a) Subject to (b) below, a trainee may complete an Electrical Safety Certificate for any low risk prescribed electrical work that has been completed by the trainee provided the trainee's supervisor allows or permits the trainee to certify;
- (b) A trainee may not complete an Electrical Safety Certificate for any maintenance or repair (including replacement) work carried out on the types of prescribed electrical work listed in regulation 6A(2) of the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010.

Provisions to enable licensed persons to work under supervision

Issue 81 of ELECTRON contained information on the Board introducing provisions which would enable licensed people to assist with the carrying out of prescribed electrical work outside the limits of their own practising licences.

The Board has considered the submissions received on the discussion paper that had been released and has agreed that any person who holds a practising licence may assist in the carrying out of prescribed electrical work outside the limits of their licence provided they are supervised by another licensed person who is authorised to undertake the work.

Full details on the provisions, which are contained in the Board Rule titled "Supervision of Persons who are not Limited Certificate holders", are available for viewing in the Board's website at www.e wrb.govt.nz

Update on new competence programme material development

The Board has been working with MBIE to progress the development of a standard set of competency programme materials, to ensure that these programmes are delivered consistently and effectively. MBIE has now appointed Wavelength, a specialist learning and development company with proven experience in these types of programmes, to develop the materials.

Wavelength was appointed in a tender process, following a period of consultation with the Board's approved competency programme providers (CPPs) and the industry.

Wavelength has already begun developing new pre-course e-learning modules and workshop material. They have been working closely with subject matter experts from the approved CPP pool to develop suitable draft material. The initial draft is being reviewed by an industry reference group as part of a rigorous development process.

The new materials will be pilot tested later in the year, with providers and practitioners, before being finalised for general use.

The Board is confident the new programme material will achieve its objective of ensuring the new competency programme maintains consistency of quality and reliability for the benefit of all NZ electrical workers.

Following the release of the new programme material, all new contracts and renewal of existing contracts with CPPs will require providers to use the approved EWRB competence programme materials to deliver competence programmes.

EWRB approved CPPs will be contacted in the coming months to be advised of new contractual arrangements that are expected to be in place by the end of the year.

Finally, a reminder to practitioners: you do not need to wait until the 11th hour to update your competency in advance of the 2017

licensing round! Get in early, and be ready for your new licence in June next year.

Investigation Reports

Recent investigations undertaken in relation to a non-registered persons working in contravention of the Electricity Act 1992 have resulted in the following prosecutions;

Prosecution 70

Mr Tauke Whana of New Plymouth has been sentenced in the Rotorua District Court on charges of doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work; doing an act intending to cause another person to believe he was registered or licensed; and issuing a certificate of compliance in relation to particular prescribed electrical work when not authorized to certify that work.

He was fined \$18,000, and ordered to repay solicitor and court costs.

In 2015, Mr Whana told a family member that he was a licensed electrician and could install wiring in a home the family member was building. Mr Whana was engaged to undertake the work, which involved a complete electrical fit out of the new property. He then issued an electrical certificate of compliance once the work was complete with a false registration number.

It was later found that the unauthorised prescribed electrical work carried out by Mr Whana was faulty and potentially dangerous.

A media release was issued on the prosecution and the Registrar advised the public that this case should serve as a timely reminder to ensure consumers always use a licensed electrical worker and ask for certification for all work carried out.

The Registrar also advised that "This case is unique in that the defendant was found to be deceiving his own family about his qualifications to carry out electrical work and it's important that people always ensure their electrical worker is licensed to do the job, even when the person carrying out the work is someone they know well."

Prosecution 71

Tiscoski Renovation Ltd of Mt Albert, Auckland was fined a total of \$2,500, and ordered to repay court and solicitor costs. The company was charged with knowingly paying a person to do unauthorised prescribed electrical work and employing a person to do unauthorised prescribed electrical work.

The company was engaged to carry out renovation work at a Mt Albert property in 2015. As part of that work, they hired an overseas backpacker to carry out prescribed electrical work at the property. The work was later found to be unsafe by a registered electrician.

Prosecution 72

Mr David Johnson, of Ashhurst, was also fined \$2,500, and ordered to repay court and solicitor costs. He was charged with doing unauthorised prescribed electrical work.

Mr Johnson undertook preliminary wiring and electrical work for the installation of solar panels on the roof of a building on a rural New Plymouth property. An inspector was later called in and identified that the installation was not compliant with the applicable standards in a number of respects, and reported Mr Johnson to the Board.

The Registrar, in a media release, advised the public that the three prosecutions outlined above should leave no doubt that the Board will continue to prosecute people who operate outside the law.

"We will continue to be vigilant in relation to unregistered and unlicensed workers and will prosecute wherever necessary," Mr Sickels says.

"It's important to think carefully who you're engaging to carry out electrical work. Always use a licensed electrical worker; ask to see their photo ID; and ask them to certify their completed work," he says.

Update on the pilot audit programme

The pilot audit programme finished up in May, and the two Providers then presented to the Board on the results.

The presentations provided some valuable insights into what is happening in the industry and on how any audit programme may be tailored.

The Board is carefully considering the options to progress this programme of work and will discuss it in more detail at the July Board meeting.

We hope to provide a further update in the next edition of ELECTRON.