



A N N U A L R E P O R T

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E L E C T R I C A L W O R K E R S R E G I S T R A T I O N B O A R D

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Presiding Member's Report

It is with great pleasure that the Electrical Workers Registration Board present this their twelfth annual report. The Board has had some significant membership changes during the year with Murray Willis not seeking re-election as Presiding member as he was nearing the end of his second term on the board. Murray has been a board member since 2000 and has been presiding member since 2001. I would like, at this time, to place on record my personal thanks, and I'm sure I speak on behalf of boards both past and present, to Murray for his stewardship of the board over the last 6 years.

The board also farewelled Deborah Rundle who resigned to travel overseas. Deborah also had a significant input to the board and again I would like to place on record the Board's appreciation of her contribution.

This last year also saw us saying goodbye to our long serving Secretary Janine Anderson. Janine had been with the board since 1995, and was certainly a valuable asset and a particularly efficient and competent organiser, which made life a lot easier for us, "her board". Again, on behalf of Boards past and present, I would like to thank Janine for the extraordinary job she has done, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Janine's departure saw the appointment of Trish Tchernegovski as Board Secretary. The Board welcomes Trish and notes the admirable job she has done taking over from Janine.

The Board has faced another challenging year with some of the highlights including:

- Ongoing audits of Electrical workers to ensure the competency of their work.
- Approval of new supervision guidelines.
- Hosting of members of the Building Practitioners Board at our meetings as they observe how we operate, as they get underway setting up their board.
- Continuing to make standards available to practicing licence holders via the Board's website.
- Introduction of a new system to improve the quality of Practicing Licence Refresher Courses.

The board continues to use the ELECTRON magazine to make sure our 25,000 registered persons with practicing licences are kept up to date with the activities of the Board and any new initiatives or decisions that may affect them.





I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the other Board members. To Deputy Presiding Member Sam Ponga, and to Board members Tom Leong, Eddie Eeles and Bernardine Hannan my thanks for their continued support and contribution to the Board. These board members bring the very diverse range of skills necessary for the smooth running of the board. The board would also like pass on their thanks and gratitude to Registrar John Sickels and Secretary Trish Tchernegovski to all for their continued invaluable assistance during the year.



Don Pryde	
Presiding Member	

Registrar's Review

The Board

During the year the Board met twelve times and those meetings encompassed twenty eight days.

The Board heard forty six complaints which had been lodged against registered people and further detail on those complaints are contained in this report.

In February 2007 Deborah Rundle resigned from the Board to travel overseas.

Also in February 2007 the Board elected Don Pryde as its Presiding Member and Sam Ponga as the Deputy Presiding Member: Murray Willis, who had been the Board's Presiding Member since 2001 did not seek re-election.

The Board acknowledges and thanks Deborah and Murray for the contribution they both made to the overall objectives of the Board.

Output Agreement with Minister

The Board considered, and favoured, entering into a proposed Output Agreement with the Minister for Building and Construction.

The proposed Output Agreement would establish performance expectations for the outputs provided by the Board and would enable the Minister to monitor the Board, and hold the Board accountable for its performance.

It is anticipated that the Output Agreement will be formalised in the forthcoming year.

Electricity Amendment Act 2006

The Board was pleased to note the introduction of the Electricity Amendment Act in December 2006 and further noted that the introduction was the culmination of a number of years work by the Board and many people in the industry who had contributed to working groups and the development of the Energy Safety Review Bill.

Proposed registration categories

Following the introduction of the Electricity Amendment Act 2006 the Board released a discussion paper on proposed registration categories under the amended legislation and in accordance with the guiding principles set down in the Amendment Act

Fifty-five submissions were received on the Board's proposals and the Board is considering those comments.

The Board will be releasing a further discussion document on proposed registration categories in the forthcoming year and all sectors of the industry and the public will be given the opportunity to provide comment.

Teaching Guidelines

During the year the Board approved the release of draft teaching guidelines for the registration categories of:

- line mechanic
- electrical service technician "level B"
- electrical inspector
- tradespersons.

The Board has requested comment on the draft teaching guidelines and it is proposed to finalise the documents during the forthcoming year.

Practising Licence Refresher Course

Three industry groups raised questions during the year about a Board produced generic practising licence refresher course which had been previously reported on. As a result of those questions an industry conference was held to give a cross section of the industry the opportunity to comment on the course the Board had produced.

The Board released a full report to industry from the conferences independent facilitator and introduced a new system to enhance the quality of practising licence refresher courses. That system includes the introduction of:

- new practising licence refresher course policy;
- refresher course prescriptions for all categories of registration;
- approval criteria for tuition courses;
- an auditing programme to monitor course quality.

By April, fifty-three training providers had elected to offer practising licence refresher training in line with the Board's requirements.

The Board believes it is a credit to the industry that such a large number of training providers have voluntarily agreed to offer training in line with the Board's requirements and the Board congratulates those providers for making every effort to enhance the competency of the electrical industry.

Availability of documents

As part of its overall strategic initiative to make all information available the Board considered the question of accessibility and transparency of documentation and decisions that have been considered and taken by the Board.

The Board set policy which enables any person to access Board meeting agendas and minutes. Also, discussion

papers and complaint hearing decisions, that are not subject to Board publication Orders, are available from the Board on request.

Full details of the policy is available on the Board's website at www.ewrb.govt.nz

Agreement with Industry Training Organisations

During the year the Board continued with the ongoing refinement of the Agreements with the Electrotechnology Industry Training Organisation and the Electricity Supply Industry Training Organisation.

A review of the Electrotechnology Industry Training Organisation Agreement was completed and the work on the Electricity Supply Industry Training Organisation Agreement continues.

The Board plans to continue the ongoing refinement and development Industry Training Organisation Agreements in the future.

Agreement with Site Safe

The Board entered into a new agreement with Site Safe to replace the existing 2004 agreement.

The new agreement is one where the safety refresher course associated with the agreement continues to integrate the Site Safe Passport and Board Practising Licence refresher course prescription requirements.

It is considered that the progress made with the new agreement clearly demonstrates that the private and public sectors can work together to improve safety.

The revised agreement continues to ensure that any duplication in training is removed and as such people wanting to be issued with a Passport/Practising licence will only be required to satisfactorily complete a safety refresher course conducted in accordance with Site Safe and Board criteria.

Agreements with Industry Organisations

During the year the existing Agreement with the Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand Inc was reviewed and draft updates made.

A new draft Agreement was developed with the Appliance and Electronic Industry Association of New Zealand.

The purpose of the Agreements are to classify members of both organisations as low risk in the Board's electrical worker audit strategy.

It is anticipated that further work on Industry Organisation Agreements will continue in the forthcoming year.

Retention of names on registers

The Board carried out a purging the registers exercise during the year to remove the names of persons who were listed in the registers as "gone no address".

The purging exercise will be repeated from time to time.

Supervision procedures

Each year the Board becomes aware of instances where people registered under the Electricity Act 1992 and trainee electricians are either unaware or unsure of the electrical legislative and regulatory requirements relating to supervision. This situation is a concern to the Board.

In view of its concern the Board has approved new Supervision Procedures which the Board believes will be of assistance to the electrical industry and the public by bringing the electrical legislative and regulatory supervision requirements together in one document.

Communication with Industry Partners

Annual conferences held by the New Zealand Electrical Institute, Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand and the Appliance and Electronic Industry Association of New Zealand were attended during the year.

The Board's ELECTRON newsletter was produced eight times during the year.

Comment on statistics

The Board has experienced an operational activity rise for the year under review with the issuance of registrations, practising licences, provisional licences all increasing along with the sales of certificates of compliance.

Full detail of the statistics for the year are included in this report.



John Sickels

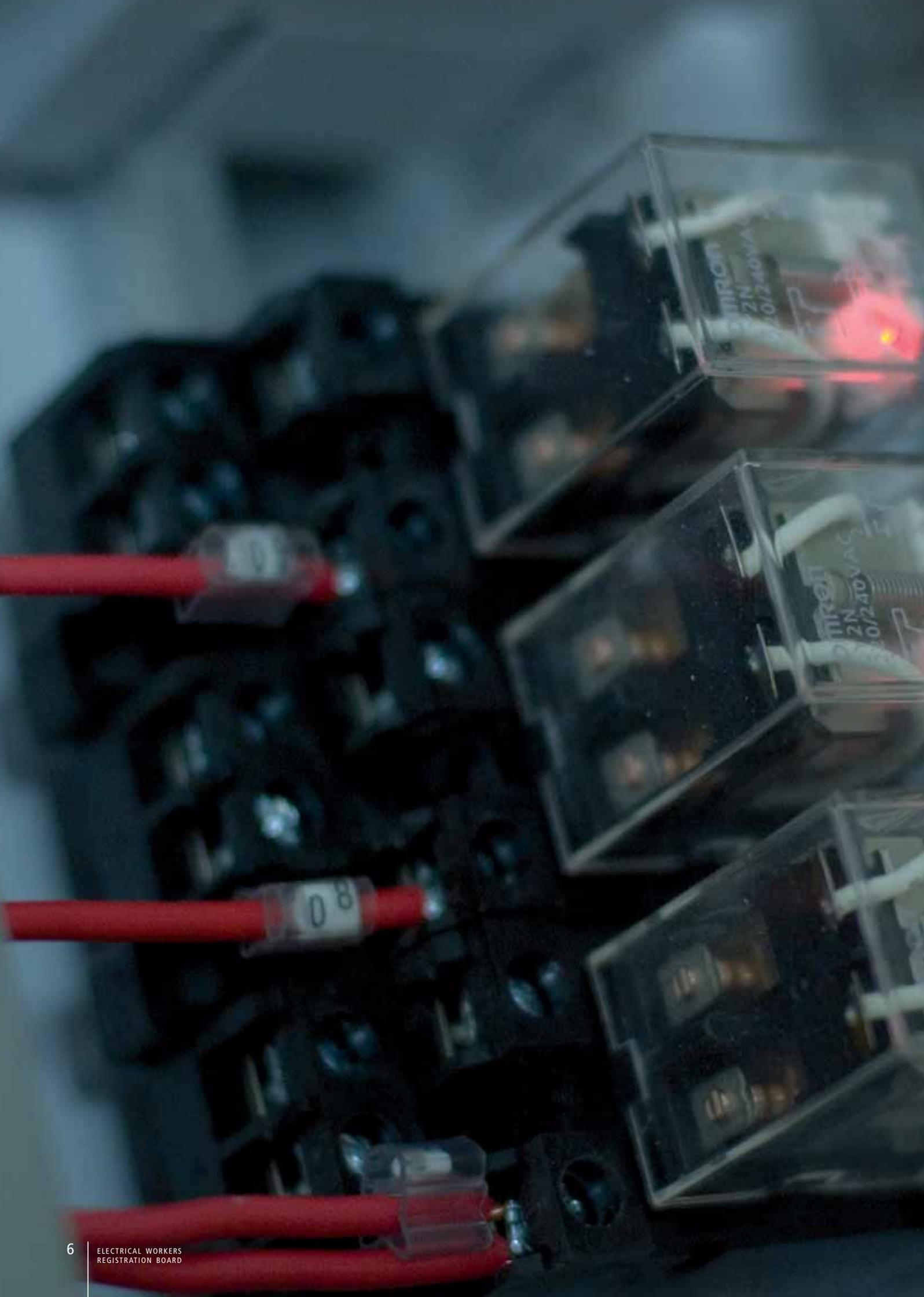
Registrar

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Sickels', written over a white background.

Board Financials

The information contained in these statements forms part of the Ministry of Economic Development and Department of Building and Housing consolidated statements audited by Audit New Zealand.

	MED Actual 2006/2007 \$000's	DBH Actual 2006/2007 \$000's	Total Actual 2006/2007 \$000's	Budget 2007/2008 \$000's
INCOME				
Practising Licences	297	1,574	1,871	1,919
Examination and Registration Fees	102	276	378	465
Sale of Publications	2	15	17	30
Certificates of Compliance	238	1,268	1,506	1,625
Miscellaneous Revenue	14	45	59	50
TOTALS	653	3,178	3,831	4,089
EXPENDITURE				
Personnel	67	565	632	763
Operating	475	1,398	1,873	1,788
Depreciation	0	3	3	0
Capital Charge	0	20	20	0
Support Services	54	466	520	759
TOTALS	596	2,452	3,048	3,310
MEMORANDUM ACCOUNT				
Opening Balance	1,795	1,795	1,795	2,578
Add Surplus (Deficit)	57	726	783	779
CLOSING BALANCE	1,852	2,521	2,578	3,357



Statistics

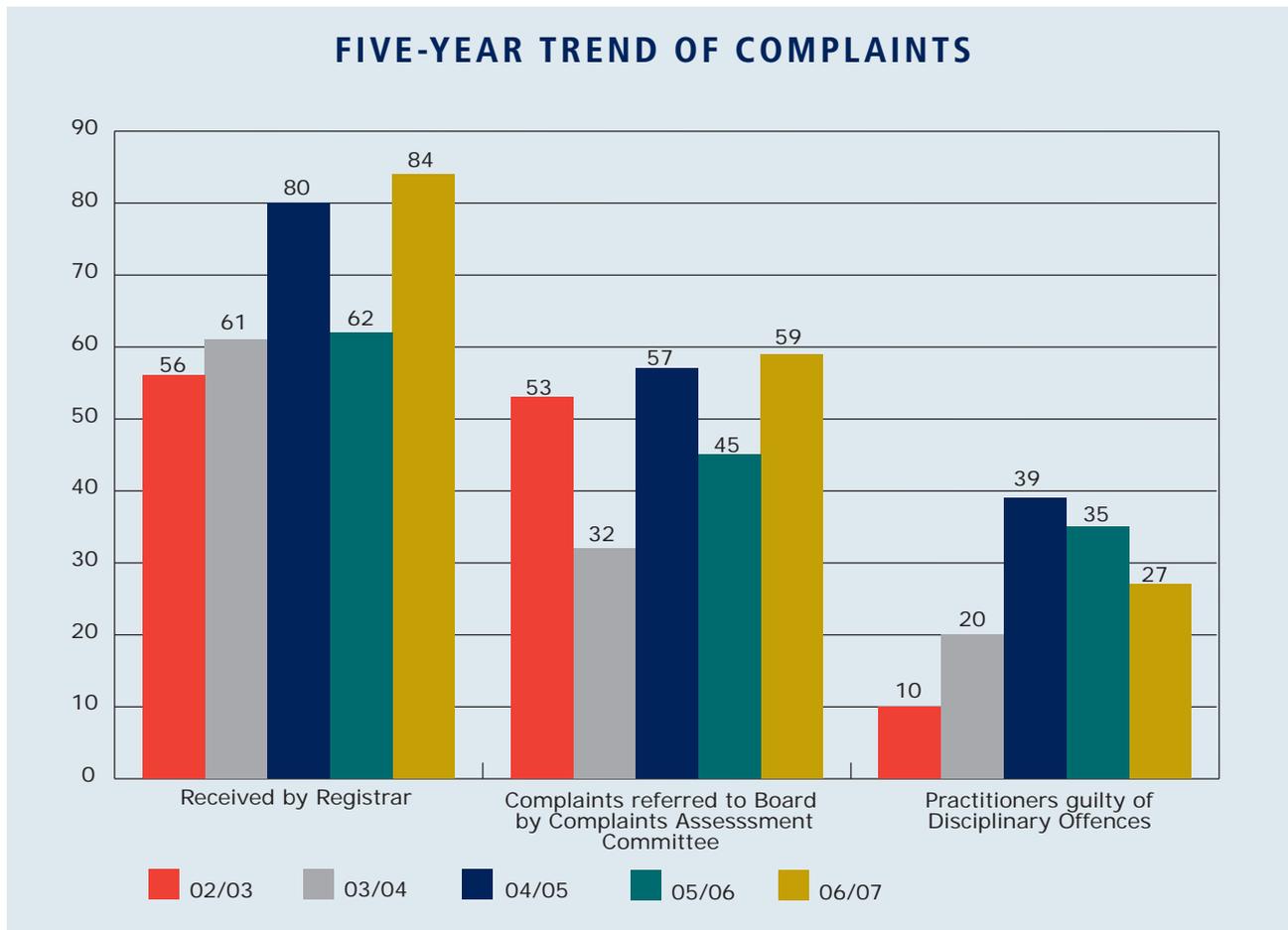
Registration in all four categories of registration have again increased with a total of 40,422 people recorded as being registered under the Electricity Act 1992.

A total of 26,247 practising licences were issued for the year.

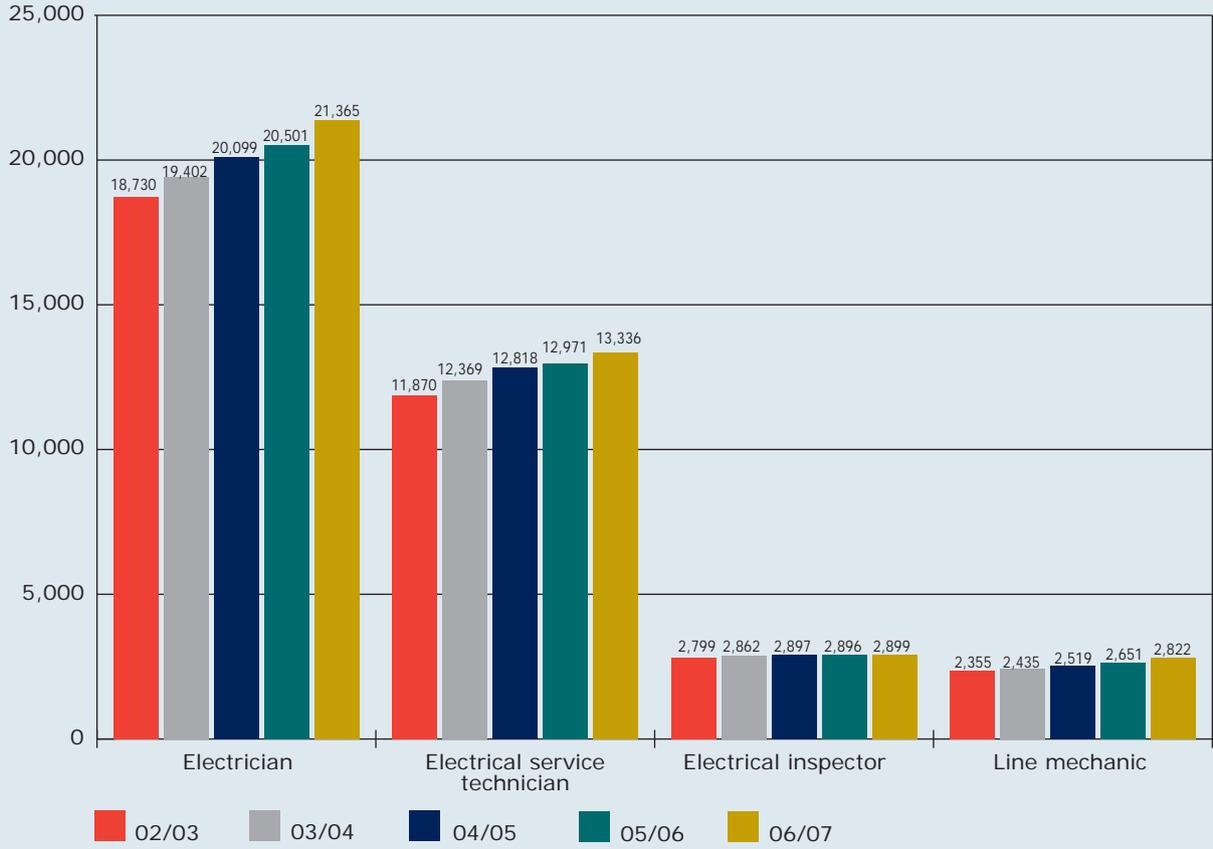
There were a total of 1,673 new registrations issued and 272 provisional licence registrations.

A total of 293,800 Certificate of Compliance were sold during the year.

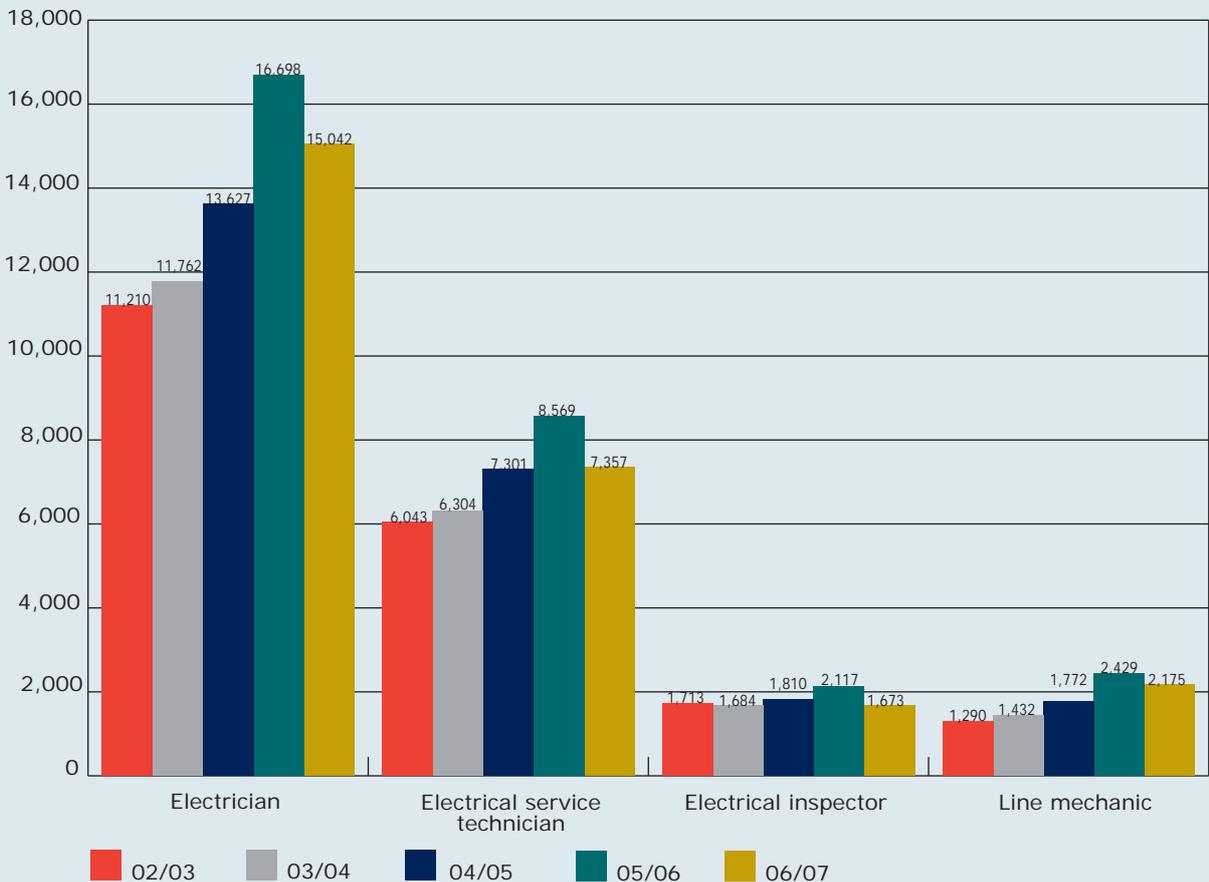
A total of 4,327 people entered Board exams during the year out of that total 3,517 (81%) were successful with their exams.



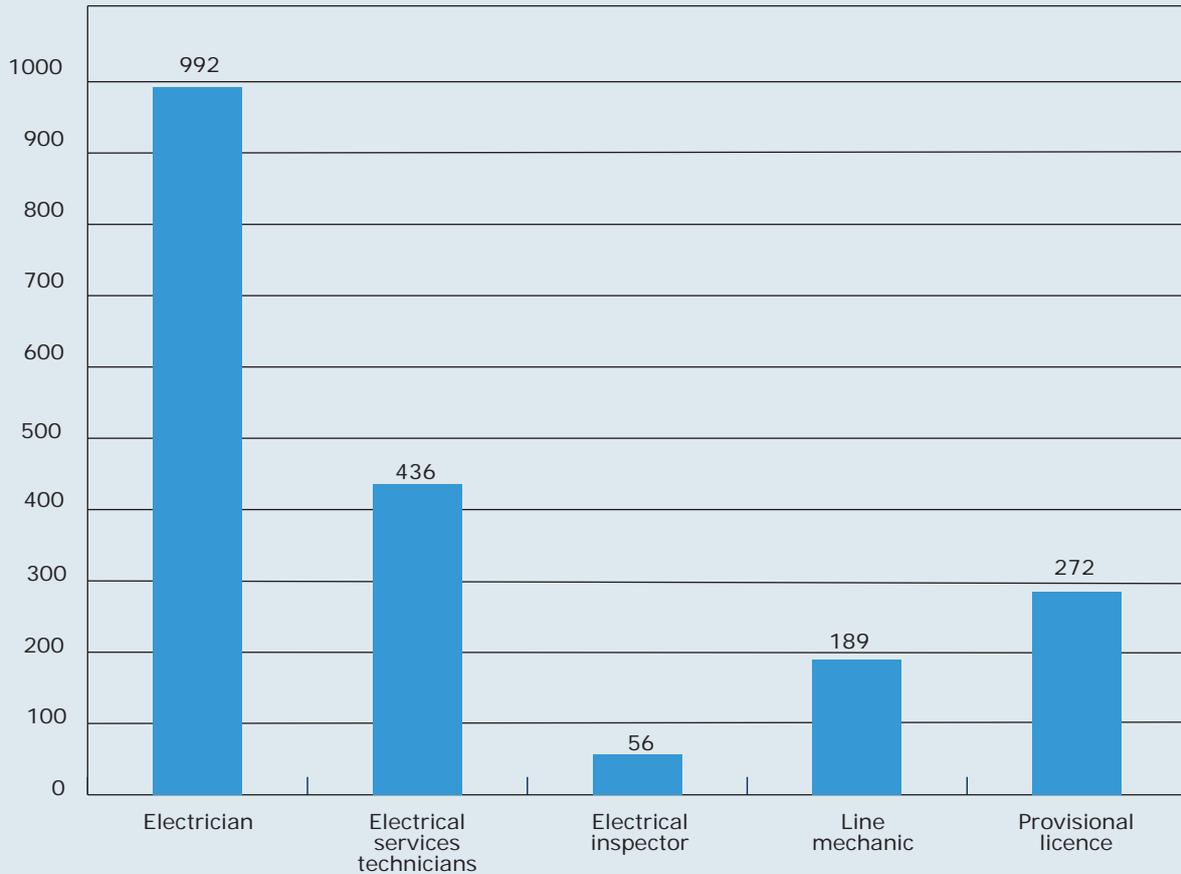
FIVE-YEAR REGISTRATION TRENDS



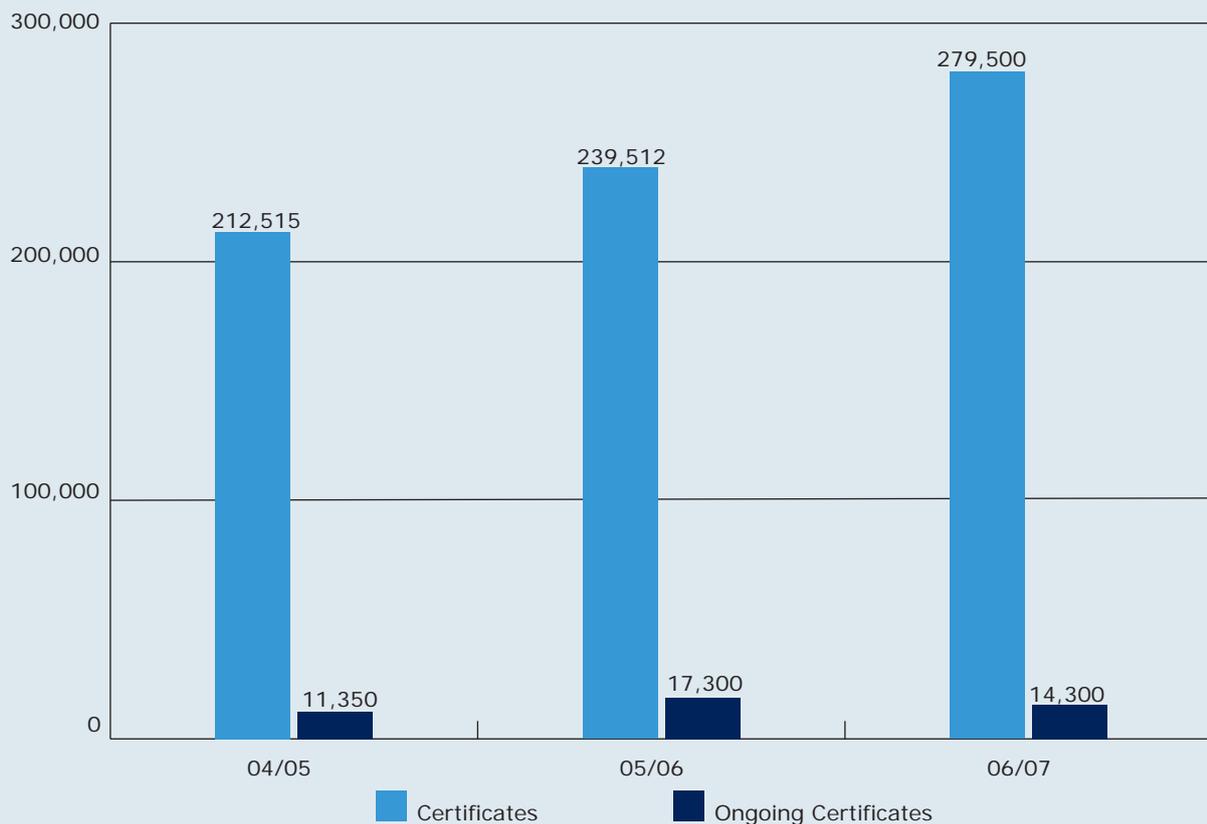
FIVE-YEAR PRACTISING LICENCE TRENDS



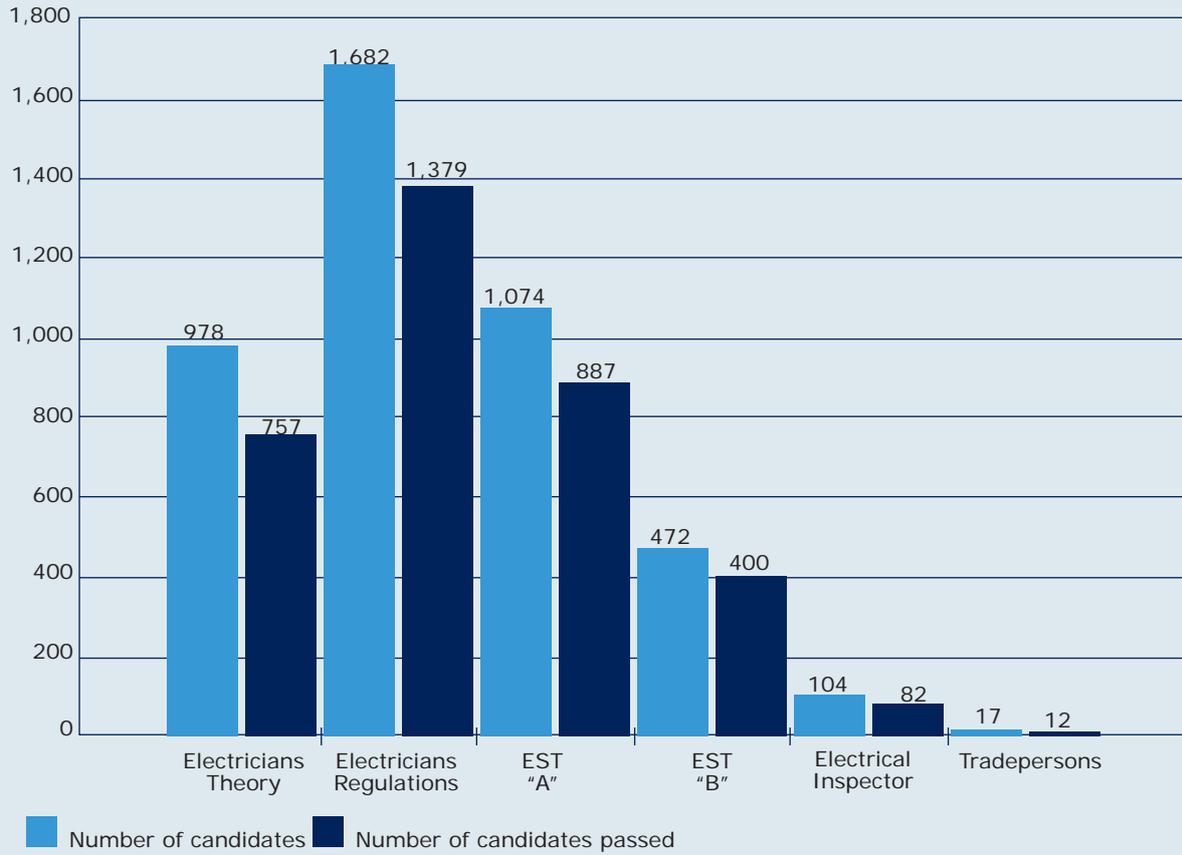
NUMBER OF NEW REGISTRATIONS JULY 2006 – JUNE 2007



CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE SALES THREE YEAR TREND



EXAMINATIONS





Board Members

- John Sickels 1
- Tom Leong 2
- Bernadine Hannan 3
- Murray Willis 4
- Eddie Eales 5
- Sam Ponga 6
- Don Pryde 7
- Trish Tchernegovski 8



Bernadine Hannan
Lay Member, Auckland

Bernadine is from Auckland and was a sitting member of the Complaints Assessment Committee from 2003 to 2005 when she was appointed to the Board. Bernadine is a Disputes Tribunal Referee and does private mediation and facilitation work, mainly in the resource management consultation area. Bernadine was a tutor in criminal law at Auckland University and a staff solicitor with Auckland Crown Solicitors, Meredith Connell.



Eddie Eales
Registered Member,
Auckland

Eddie is a registered electrical inspector who has worked in the electrical industry over forty years. His background in electrical contracting saw him as a Company Director, Past National President of ECANZ and a foundation Director of ETCO. Eddie was a member of the Northern Complaints Assessment Committee from 1993 to 2006 prior to his appointment to the Board; during that time he was also Presiding Member from 1993 to 1995 and 1998 to 2006.



Tom is a Chartered professional engineer of NZ and UK and a registered electrical inspector with many years experience in the electrical supply industry. He has extensive knowledge of electrical legislation and industry training. Tom has worked with Standards New Zealand and the Electricity Engineers Association to advance safe and competent electrical work in New Zealand.

Tom Leong

Registered Member,
Auckland



Sam is a registered Electrical Inspector, Skills Assessor and Security Consultant from New Plymouth. Sam has worked as an electrical contractor, electrical maintenance supervisor, control systems planner, control systems technician, electrical fitter, and electrician. Sam served his apprenticeship in Taranaki.

Sam Ponga

Registered and Deputy
Presiding Member, Auckland



Don's career is in the electrical supply sector of the industry and he has served on the Electrical Apprenticeship Committee. He has been a member of the New Zealand Engineering, Printing and Manufacturing Union's National Council and is the Union's National President.

Don Pryde

Registered and Presiding
Member, Dunedin



Murray has many years experience in the electronics and electrical industry. He was trained in New Zealand and overseas, and has held management, board and committee positions in a number of multi-national organisations. Currently Murray is self employed, specialising in the design and construction of renewable electrical energy generation and telecommunications systems, while operating his own electrical contracting and telecommunications companies.

Murray Willis

Murray Willis QSM
Registered Member

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