

Plumbing SA

The Plumbing Industry Association of South Australia Inc.



November / December 2013



- All You Need To Know About Harnesses
- Use Of Mobile Phones In Work Vehicles
- Winning Government Contracts



ADELAIDE PIPELINE MAINTENANCE SERVICES



The industry leader in the provision of water and wastewater maintenance services.

Our state of the art equipment is operated by the most experienced technicians in the country. Our wide range of specialist equipment will enable us to find solutions to all of your sewer, stormwater and hydraulic problems.

Our services include:

- • Water Recycling Combination Jet-Vac & Hydro-Jet Units
- • New IBAK Mainline CCTV Inspection Camera
- • Non Destructive Digging/Hydro-Excavation
- • Service Locating- GPR & Radio-Detection



13-15 Oaklands Road Somerton Park SA 5044

E: service@apms-sa.com.au

P: 08 8295 2333

F: 08 8295 8140

W: www.apms-sa.com.au

Contents

November / December 2013

Inside this issue....

| | |
|---|----|
| PIA Editorial | 2 |
| Amid Savage Cutbacks in Domestic Manufacturing Company | 4 |
| Making It Easier for Local Businesses to Win Government Contracts | 7 |
| In Brief | 8 |
| Residential Plumbing | 10 |
| Maintenance Plumbing | 12 |
| NSW Collins Inquiry into Construction Industry Insolvency | 16 |
| Commercial Plumbing | 18 |
| Legal Advice | 20 |
| Financial Advice | 21 |
| JB's Soap Box | 22 |
| Apprentices | 25 |
| SafeWork SA | 27 |
| Hot Products | 37 |
| Member Benefits | 38 |
| Industry & Affiliate Members | 41 |

Cover: Left to Right - Jade Berry and Ruth McDonald removing a damaged basin in a hospital ward

Published by

The Plumbing Industry Association
(SA) Inc
1st Floor/1 South Road
Thebarton SA 5031
PO Box 219
Torrensville Plaza SA 5031
Ph: (08) 8292 4000
Fax: (08) 8292 4040
Email: editor@piasa.com.au



Advertising Enquiries

Siobhan James
Ph: (08) 8292 4000
Email: siobhan.james@piasa.com.au

Prepress and Printing

Keystone Printing
Ph: (08) 8231 9999
Fax: (08) 8231 4899
Email: sales@keystoneprinting.com.au

Website

Web: www.piasa.com.au

Opinions expressed in Plumbing SA are not necessarily those of the PIA-SA, nor does the PIA-SA guarantee the accuracy of the statements made by contributors or advertisers or accept responsibility for statements they may express in this publication, nor does the PIA-SA accept liability to advertisers for the publication of advertising which may be held contrary to the Competition and Consumer Act 2010. The PIA-SA reserves the right to refuse, cancel, amend or suspend any advertisement or insert without reason. All advertising pricing is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice. Errors and omissions excepted.



Trades insurance you can chat with.

For trades, business and strata insurance call 1300 934 934 or visit wfi.com.au

To see if our product is right for you, always read the PDS from the product issuer, WFI (ABN 24 000 036 279 AFSL 241461).

Good people to know.



Editorial



MasterPlumber apprentices

New Branding for PIA Group Training Scheme

The PIA is proud to announce the launch of its new brand name for the Group Training Scheme, "Master Plumber Apprentices", which is underpinned by the PIA but looking to achieve a greater level of professionalism and status within the industry and community. The term Master Plumber is still being used throughout the country and feedback has shown the term is still highly regarded from both consumers and industry.

The PIA will be rolling out new initiatives that will ensure the Master Plumber Apprentices achieve greater exposure in areas such as training, WHS and access to tools that make them more efficient and productive in the market place. The PIA is proud of the history of the industry and feels that this is a way to respect those Master Plumbers who began their careers with the objective to become a Master Plumber, one that is trained in all facets of plumbing and is a respected professional tradesperson.

New Opportunity for BusinessMate Users

The PIA has secured a new initiative for users of BusinessMate that will enhance their business systems and processes. A WHS consultant will be made available at no cost to assist businesses with the implementation of WHS components including (but not limited to) Risk Assessment and Audits, Legislative Policy Advice and WHS training. The consultant will be working in conjunction with the BusinessMate Integrated Management System.

The consultant is sourced through one of the Worker's Compensation Agents. To see if you are eligible to obtain this free consultation service please contact Andrew Clarke or Paul Worthington.

Non Members are in the Dark

This article is one that not only scares me, but makes light of the fact that there are so many plumbing companies losing work to incompetent plumbing "businesses" out there that still have no idea of what is required to operate a business. I have seen first hand that the level of ignorance from business owners is still rife in the WHS space. It staggers me that a business owner has no knowledge of what is required when employing a worker, ensuring that workers are operating in a safe environment as well as knowing about the current training requirements for all plant and equipment.

Believe me, that is just mentioning a few items, the list would probably push well into the magazine. Why is the industry being torn apart by the bastardisation of poor pricing practices? It is because those who are winning the work have simply no idea of working to regulation. So I ask members, that for every non-member they come across, (for the sake of the industry) please make them contact the PIA and help them understand that running a business is more than having a toolbox and a ute.

Andrew Clarke
Executive Officer



Pipeline TECHNOLOGY SERVICES



Servicing Contractors & Consultants

Latest Technology & Equipment in Australia

We Service:

- Water Utilities
- Councils & Local Government
- Property Development Consultants
- Construction & Civil Industry
- Consultant Engineers

- Sewer & Stormwater Asset Management
- Hydrojet & Vacuum Recovery Units
- Confined Space Entry Specialists
- Location of Underground Services (ground penetrating radar)
- CCTV Inspections
- Hydro Excavation (non destructive digging)
- Blocked Stormwater Sewage Drains
- Project Management
- Traffic Management / Survey / Plans

SA Owned & Operated

Pipeline Technology Services was the first of it's kind in Australia and still the leaders in the industry for technology and service.

24 Hour Emergency Service

8351 7000
www.pipelines.com.au

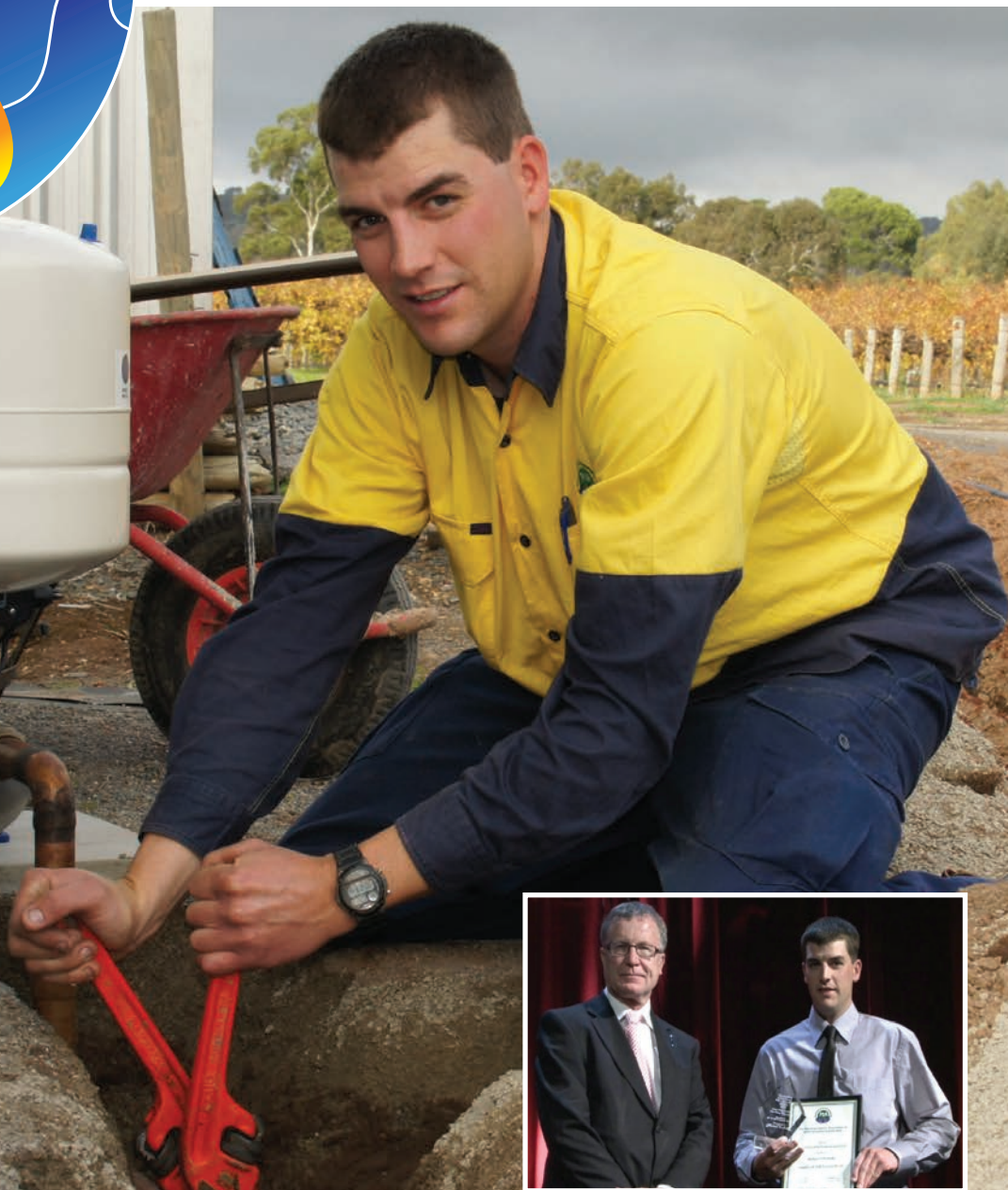


Plumbing Apprentices for the industry

.... by the industry



Most Outstanding Apprentice
Michael Przibilla



Hon Paul Holloway presenting Michael Przibilla
with his award

Our apprentices are your apprentices

PIA delivers a value for money, flexible, responsive and innovative service

Call the PIA to find out how we can help you



PIA apprentices are an investment in your industry



p: 8292 4000

www.piasa.com.au

Amid Savage Cutbacks in Domestic Manufacturing Capacity

Amid savage cutbacks in domestic manufacturing capacity, many in the construction sector throughout Australia are becoming increasingly concerned about a growing reliance on imported building materials and the implications this has for the ability of the industry to deliver high performance and safe buildings and infrastructure.

Such concerns are especially relevant in light of the growing use of prefabrication in modern construction.

We discussed this issue in a previous issue that empty car factories could make ideal prefabricated home construction factories but the possibility of flat packed pre fabricated homes from countries with much lower wage costs is another issue and has far more significant ramifications than a factory in Australia manufacturing a home using local materials and labour.

One developer specialising in low cost housing describes homes he sells as being reminiscent of 'kit homes'. They involve components built offshore which are merely assembled here – all at a fraction of the cost compared with using a local builder even after allowing for expenses associated with regular trips abroad to inspect components on the part of his building surveyor.

Another, when bidding for a recent contract in the Polynesian Islands, found himself undercut by a Chinese developer to the tune of a whopping 60 per cent.

The future has arrived and Australia must be careful to ensure what happened in the fashion retail industry – which has been hammered by the web and its ability to open up competition from imports – does not happen in construction.

If offshore prefabrication and 'Lego kitting' becomes the new norm, a large chunk of that which has traditionally been built in local markets will be constructed offshore.

That has implications not just for the employment prospects of local carpenters, joiners and prefabricators, but also for builders, whose function will increasingly revolve more narrowly around assembly as opposed to the full carriage of the project from inception to completion.

It also has consequences for unions, who in order to best serve their members' interests, will increasingly need to broaden their

focus beyond securing maximum increases in remuneration to engaging in constructive dialogue with employer groups about how to maximise competitiveness and keep jobs onshore.

There are further implications for quality assurance

In the absence of robust inspection regimes, there is a risk of poor quality or even non-compliant materials winding up being incorporated into the final as-built product.

One only has to look at a Chinese vehicle imported into Australia that was found to have components using Asbestos to realise control will be difficult.

Because of this, Building Acts, codes and regulations will have to evolve. Inspection regimes and quality assurance components of the National ConstructionCode of Australia and the NZ building code will need to adapt and become more globally responsive.

A good example is Singapore, which has moved away from British influences and brought its regulations into greater harmony with those in Europe.

The future is here. Builders, regulators and Building Acts, codes and regulations must keep pace with the changing environment so we can be ready.

Professor Kim Lovegrove FAIB

Construction News





The kit is now **complete.**

With the addition of the
patented hot water outlet fitting,
the **ZETCO VALVE KITS**
are now complete.

Available in conetite, flared, capillary and olive
Sizes: 15x15mm, 15x20mm and 20x20mm



AUSTRALIAN PATENT NUMBERS 2006200845/2011101101
AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED DESIGN(s) 12612-12626/2012

Workers compensation specialists servicing the Plumbing industry

Employers Mutual is a recognised industry leader in workers compensation case management services. **We are proud of our partnership with the Plumbing Industry Association South Australia Inc. and offer its members specialist, tailored solutions to improve return to work outcomes and help reduce the cost of workers compensation.**

Member Benefits Program

We have supported employers in the Plumbing industry by allocating over \$600,000 in funds through our Member Benefits Program since 2010, to support the establishment of BusinessMate as a complete management system for plumbing businesses.

We are currently negotiating the provision of consulting services to the association and our members to support the Work Health and Safety components of BusinessMate.

Working with you

From 1st October until 30th November employers have the opportunity to change claims agent for the 2014 calendar year. **Nomination forms are now available and we urge all employers in the plumbing industry currently not with Employers Mutual to select us as their claims agent of choice by completing a nomination form** available from the WorkCover website, from Employers Mutual by calling Darryl Turner on 8127 1527 or Jodie Bischoff on 8127 1260 or from Andrew Clarke, CEO Plumbing Industry Association on 8292 4000. By selecting Employers Mutual as your claims agent, you will be assured of specialized industry claims management service and be eligible to receive ongoing member benefits.



Our key services include:

- Claims and injury management
- Member Benefits Program
- Employer education and training programs
- Employer onsite visitation program
- Employer reporting tools to help you manage your claims



Employers Mutual
Since 1910

For further information

contact us toll free on 1300 365 105
or visit our website:

www.employersmutual.com.au

Making it Easier for Local Businesses to Win Government Contracts

More projects are set to be covered by an industry participation policy and greater weight is to be given to local businesses as part of a major overhaul of government procurements processes in South Australia.

The overhaul aims to make work on public sector projects more accessible to small businesses in construction, manufacturing and other industries. Announcing the changes recently, State Minister for Manufacturing and Trade Tom Kenyon said the measures were about cutting red tape and making it easier for local businesses to win government contracts.

He said the steps taken represented part of the government's response to a review of tender process effectiveness by the Industry Participation Advocate.

"The policy has been designed to ensure we achieve the maximum economic benefit from the nearly \$4 billion of contracts let by the State Government each year – and that local companies are given every opportunity to win these contracts," Kenyon said. "The reforms are about opening-up government tender processes, making them less complicated, streamlining procedures, cutting red tape and making it easier for our local businesses to compete on an equal footing."

Under the changes, the number of projects covered by the state's industry participation policy will be significantly increased, as will the weighting and importance of local business participation in decision making processes during the awarding of public sector work.

Meanwhile, at least one local quote will need to be sought on contracts of up to \$220,000 in value. While insurance compliance costs for small-businesses winning low-risk contracts up to \$1 million in value will be reduced and a single pre-qualifying tender process across all government agencies will mean companies only need to provide information once.

The latest measures are part of efforts to increase local participation in public sector work, particularly on state-funded building and infrastructure projects. Last month, Kenyon announced Business SA's intention to create a special training package to help local business understand processes involved in tendering for government work and develop tenders which present their case and address required criteria more effectively.

The government has also commenced a series of 'Meet the Buyer' events during which company representatives are able to meet with government purchasing officers. Kenyon says the latest measures follow consultation on the part of the Office of the Industry Advocate with more than 250 businesses, industry associations, unions and public agencies.

He says further consultation will occur through special advisory panels, whilst an Industry Participation Taskforce involving senior government representatives will be established in order to support the reforms. "We've listened to local businesses who've told us they want better access to government contracts and these reforms aim to address their concerns following the Advocate's review," he says.

Ray White
Business Broking



Gas Works is Adelaide's largest gas appliance and air conditioning retail network started in February 1998 by former agents of S.A. Gas Co. Annual turnover is fast approaching \$15m. Seven stores serve the Adelaide metro, south coast and north to the Barossa Valley. A rare opportunity currently exists for an energetic, motivated, owner operator to join this exciting group. Present owners of the well established Salisbury store are retiring to spend more time with family and pursue other interests. Offers over \$300k +SAV are invited. **Contact Paul Gogia 0405 067 837**

Level 1, 141 O'Connell St, North Adelaide ☎ (08) 8104 0750
paul.gogia@raywhite.com



In reply please quote Doc: A413885
Enquiries to Rob Faunt
Telephone 8226 5519

19 September 2013

RECEIVED
24 SEP 2013

BY:

ENERGY MARKETS &
PROGRAMS DIVISION

OFFICE OF THE
TECHNICAL REGULATOR

GPO Box 1264
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Telephone: 08 8226 5500
Facsimile: 08 8226 5866
www.energy.sa.gov.au/otr

Mr Andrew Clarke
Plumbing Industry Association of SA Inc
PO Box 219
TORRENSVILLE SA 5031

Dear Mr Clarke

RE: Internal Sanitary Drain as Constructed Plans

In reference to your letter dated 11 September 2013, I hope the following response will address your concerns.

The Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) currently manages the 'Internal Sanitary Drain as Constructed Plans' process using an IT records management system called CRM.

As part of the Regulatory transfer of functions, SA Water provided the OTR with a bulk extract of all of their historical images of 'Internal Sanitary Drain as Constructed Plans'. There are approximately 1.2 million plan images supplied, of these 340,000 plan images provided are not easily accessible due to the provided image not having any corresponding property address attached.

The process SA Water used to extract Internal Sanitary Drain as Constructed Plan images was built on top of the in-house automatic address matching tool (AIPS) which was built to support the Dial-Before-You-Dig tools. If a particular address renders no results through the automated process, SA Water in this case would rely upon an "exception" report being raised; someone would manually look the plan up in their GIS system (AquaMap) that is used to manage the 'Internal Sanitary Drain as Constructed Plans' to gain the information required.

The OTR does not have a GIS system or an automatic tool similar to SA Water due to the very large costs involved in duplicating SA Water's AquaMap and AIPS systems.

SA Water has provided the OTR with limited access to certain fields in AquaMap to gain field book references. The OTR is working with SA Water to secure ongoing access to this facility.

Due to information integrity issues associated with the metadata provided by SA Water it would not be possible or a successful notion to provide these images remotely to the Plumbing Industry, it would only create more frustration and unnecessary delays to those trying to use these plans.

The OTR appreciates the frustration the Plumbing Industry is experiencing and we are in the process of developing measures that aim to eliminate the concerns you have raised.

We will continue to provide Internal Sanitary Drainage as Constructed Plans to customers as soon as practicable and hope you can understand the issues that we have inherited from SA Water in performing this important function to the Plumbing Industry and the public.

The OTR seeks your cooperation in an ongoing issue with the non-lodgement of Internal Sanitary Drainage as Constructed Plans by plumbers; this also includes some of your members. The OTR is continuously contacting plumbers to remind them of their legal obligations to submit plans and certificates of compliance.

The OTR is committed to work with the Plumbing Industry Association to address your concerns related to the issues you have raised. We would be happy to discuss these matters further should you wish to.

Yours sincerely

ROB FAUNT
TECHNICAL REGULATOR/DIR ENERGY REGULATION

In Brief

Aquamaps

The PIA is very aware of the concerns of members with regard to the issues around Aquamaps and the drainage plans plumbers rely upon. We have written to the OTR and on page 8 is the response from OTR on this matter. We are pursuing this matter to ensure the plumbing industry as a whole continues to have timely access to all sewer plans. We will keep members informed of progress on this matter.

Tech Guru

This article was published in the Advertiser recently and was an endorsement of a strategic direction of the PIA to provide the technology to members to improve their efficiency, streamline non plumbing tasks within their businesses, improve productivity, ensure compliance with legislation and give better work life balance.

Intruding on Plumber's Work

It is important that you contact the PIA to report utilities contractors or their employees undertaking work on private property. APA Group and SA Water have strict requirements of contractors. In the case of SA Water,

contractors clearing a blockage on the SA Water side may only go one metre into the customer's drain. APA Group do not allow their contractors to undertake any work on the consumer side.

A member recently contacted the PIA because a contractor's employee for the APA Group approached a property owner to fix a gas leak they had found on his property, when installing a new gas meter. After investigation by the APA Group and the contractor, it was found an employee was doing this expressly against his own company's and APA Group's policy. The contractor terminated his employment. APA Group take these matters very seriously but where they occur you need to inform the PIA with as much detail as you can so we can follow it up.

Wall Planners

We have already received inquiries from members about whether or not we will be producing a 2014 PIA wall planners. We can announce that the wall planner will be in the January-February issue of Plumbing SA which you should receive just before Christmas.

Thankyou to the PIA members who alerted us to a major hardware chain promoting a DIY bathroom renovation event. PIA attended and found the chain explaining how to do the plumbing. The PIA is meeting with Consumer & Business Affairs and the OTR to take this matter further. We will pursue this matter as far as we can.

You're not
getting any
younger!

Plumbers

It's time you
'locked' in your
**income
protection
premiums**
and save money!

What we provide...

For over 25 years we've worked closely with workers and businesses in the Building Industry upgrading their existing personal insurance policies. This GUARANTEES that their Life Insurance Company does not pass on annual price increases each year.

We make it easy.

YOU KEEP YOUR EXISTING PERSONAL INSURANCE POLICY(IES). No paperwork, no medicals and easily done over the phone.

Call us now to start saving!



1800 330 431
www.stinsurance.com.au

Residential Plumbing

Buy a Carbon Copy Book

After a quiet time for the PIA from members seeking legal advice, things really sparked up in September with a string of calls requiring some initial legal advice from Natasha Hemmerling. Once again it drew attention to the importance of receiving instructions in writing.

One member was called back to a new home which they had plumbed over three years ago. A cold water pipe was leaking and the builder had asked the plumber to go out and investigate. Our member was unsure as to the warranty period. In the case of defective materials and workmanship it is 10 years.

The plumber needs to go out and identify the problem. If for example, a tree root had lifted the water pipe up and distorted a joint causing it to rupture. The plumber can ask the home owner to pay for the cost of repairs. If the work or material is defective, the plumber bears the cost. The plumber can try to claim the cost of defective materials back from the manufacturer.

However, if the home owner refuses, you will have no choice but to initiate legal proceedings and will then have to prove it was not defective work or materials. The law is very heavily weighted

towards the consumer in this area. In most instances, people are reasonable and a satisfactory arrangement can be worked out with the home owner.

The next situation involved a new home completed by the plumber. The builder, by email, asked the plumber to go out, investigate and fix the leaking wet storm water system. The pipe was buried under concrete paving and it was not immediately obvious where the leak was located. A plumber with CCTV was called in and the leak located.

The concrete was cut and the damaged pipe was repaired. A few days later the plumber was called back again and the exercise was repeated. The cause of the damage to the pipe was the concrete paving contractor, when boxing up the paths, had driven his stakes through the stormwater pipe.

The builder had been asked by the home owner to recommend a concrete contractor. The home owner had then engaged the contractor on a cash basis and the concrete contractor is denying all responsibility.

For the absolute best fleet price on your next Toyota...

JARVIS



TOYOTA

call your PIA representative
Gary Waters on 8400 9106
or 0417 893 321



jarvistoyota.com.au

The builder has become concerned that the home owner will not pay him for the repairs, so has tried to put it back to our member, that he cover the cost of repairs because the plumber had deviated from the drawings.

Fortunately our member had deviated from the drawings with the verbal approval of the site supervisor, who was willing to confirm his approval.

There are two big road bumps here. If the site supervisor had not remembered or chose not to remember, a clause on the engineers drawings and probably in the builder's contract, would apply. "Drawings are indicative and may change due to site conditions."

Road Bumps:

1. This clause only gives the builder and engineers the right to make changes from a drawing. Any changes by a sub contractor must be with the approval of the builder and / or engineer. In this case, our member had quite correctly sought and gained approval. The PIA urges all members to seek approval in writing for any deviation from the supplied plans and drawings
2. The second road bump would have been, not having it in writing. In this instance our member has been supported by the site supervisor. This may not be the case with other builders. The simplest solution to protect yourself is to get these verbal instructions in writing. Too hard?

How hard is it to buy a carbon copy book from the newsagents and stick it in the van with a working pen?

All you need to do then, when you are asked to do something verbally, is walk back to the van. Write in the carbon copy book the name of the builder, the location of the job.

The specific instruction you have been given. Sign and date the variation and have the builder's representative do the same.

Give the top sheet to the builder's representative and keep the carbon copy as your record. Two to three minutes of your time. No avenue for a he said, you said dispute.

Could you record the conversation on your smart phone? Yes, but ... you will need to be very sure the recording is done with everyone's agreement. Without such an agreement it could add another layer of complexity in that lawyers may create delays while you demonstrate privacy laws have not been breached. Paper is simpler in this case.

It's time
you **saved**
money!



Plumbers

Stop your
income
protection
premiums
increasing
every year

What we provide...

For over 25 years we've worked closely with workers and businesses in the Building Industry upgrading their existing personal insurance policies. This **GUARANTEES** that their Life Insurance Company does not pass on annual price increases each year.

We make it easy.

YOU KEEP YOUR EXISTING PERSONAL INSURANCE POLICY(IES). No paperwork, no medicals and easily done over the phone.

Call us now to start saving!



1800 330 431
www.stinsurance.com.au

Maintenance Plumbing

A Few Days In The Life Of A Maintenance Plumber



On first glance this water heater installation looks very neat and professional. When you look more closely it becomes clear that the HWS was replaced with an almost identical unit.

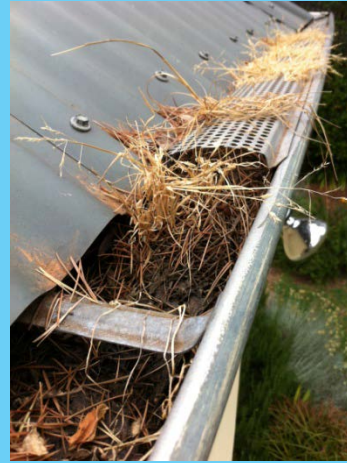
The plumber was able to do the job with minimal effort but why couldn't he have used the screws supplied with the new HWS and made sure it was secured against the wall?

Below: Tree roots are the maintenance plumbers bread and butter.



The owner of this home had a gutter guard system installed and thought that would be the end of gutter cleaning. The gutter guard was no match for the fine pine needles and in just over five years the new gutters had rusted out and had to be replaced.

As plumbers we need to do a better job of making home owners understand that a home is just like their car. It is manmade and whilst some materials have a very long life, others do not and without preventative maintenance, a house can sustain damage that can cost many, many thousands of dollars.



No seal had been fitted to this vario bend and previous blockages had caused waste to push back through the gap and drain back to the wall behind the water closet making the family sick from the smell and gases.



Human hair, body fats and soap from a floor drain. It's hard to understand why a proportion of customers resent a plumber being paid to clear these problems from their drains.

Maybe they should be made to see what you have to deal with.

Maintenance Plumbing Cont...

A Few Days In The Life Of A Maintenance Plumber



The downpipe had separated from the stormwater pipe due to ground movement.

Water was leaking out of the joint every time it rained.

Our member installed a 90mm expansion joint half way down the downpipe to accommodate any future movement.

This old galvanised sewer drain was filled with corroded iron, fats, soaps and waste built up over many years.

Our member had to replace the whole drain.



The gas water heater flue is too close to the door. AS/NZS 5601 requires that it should be 500mm away from a window and 1000mm away from a door.

Installations of this age often have holes cut in the gas box allowing gas leaks to vent into the cavity.

If you come across situations like this try and fix it but if the customer won't pay to have it fixed, note this on the Gas Certificate of Compliance (COC) and let the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) take this up with the client.



John Gray, Cbus Member

When it comes
to super, you
can rely on

cbus

At Cbus, we make meeting your super obligations easy:

- We have a range of online contribution payment options, including the Cbus Clearing House which will allow you to pay your employees' super into multiple funds using the one system.
- Access to financial advice for Cbus members.
- Regular communication with members and employers.

At Cbus we invest back into the building and construction industry as part of our investment strategy, thereby creating jobs.

Read the relevant Cbus Product Disclosure Statement to decide whether Cbus is right for you. For a copy: call **Cbus on 1300 361 784** or visit **www.cbussuper.com.au**

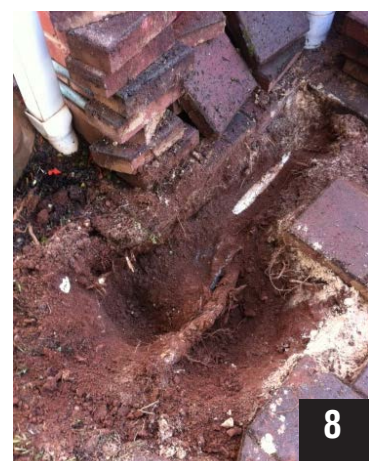
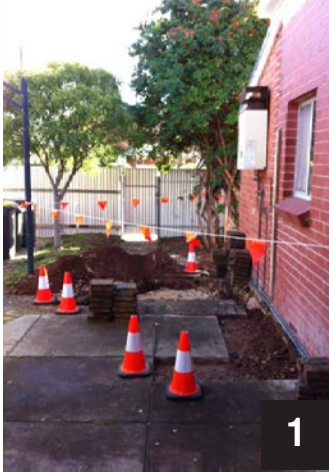
Cbus' Trustee: United Super Pty Ltd ABN 46 006 261 623 AFSL 233792 Cbus ABN 75 493 363 262.

cbus
Construction & Building
Industry Super



Maintenance Plumbing Cont...

A Few Days In The Life Of A Maintenance Plumber



As the photographs above show, our member was called out to clear a blocked kitchen sink waste pipe. He discovered that the 6m long waste pipe in 50mm, was direct to drain and had been concreted into the earthenware IP.

The drain was clogged with a mesh of tree roots and the kitchen waste pipe was clogged with fat which prevented the passage of and discharge of waste waters.

The client agreed to have it rectified so that it was compliant with AS/NZS 3500 which states that a drain of that length cannot be connected direct to drain.

Our member as per the standard installed a disconnecter gully and raised two IP's, one in the branch and one in the main drain to facilitate drain cleaning in the future.

He re-concreted the path and left a very happy customer.



This galvanised gas pipe had been buried in clay for many years and it was only when a member did some work in the house and detected a very small drop in pressure, that the source of the leak was even realised let alone the extent of corrosion. Needless to say the pipe was replaced.



When the home had both gas and oil services, someone being lazy brought both flues out at the same point on the roof. A member removed the oil flue as the oil heating had been decommissioned and replaced the gas flue with a new single outlet.



Maintenance Cont... Deformed PVC Pipe



A simple thing as a ball left in a gutter caused the downpipe to back up and water to enter the eaves.

The water damaged a wall and caused mould in a child's bedroom.

Again simple maintenance would have prevented an expensive repair. Greening Australia may have just found the easiest method of propagating trees for farmers and landholders.

A neighbourhood gutter, a little leaf litter, nicely rotted and a sprinkle of seed and we have it.



The PIA received quite a few responses about the deformed UPVC pipe in the last issue of the magazine. Consensus was that the pipe was not lagged properly and the heat of hydration from the concrete curing around the pipe has softened the pipe causing the deformity.

This may have been worsened by vibration of the concrete in proximity of the pipe. The main product of the binding of cement and water is heat, which is given off during the hardening of the concrete.

This is known as the heat of hydration and can contribute to a temperature rise up to 55°C in high cement content mixes.

Thus the importance of lagging of pipes cannot be underestimated, especially if embedded in/or adjacent to large concrete pours – such as a pier.



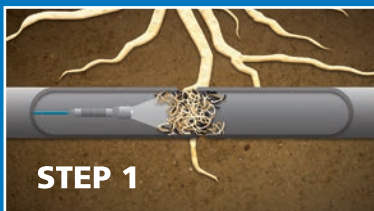
SAPIPERELINING



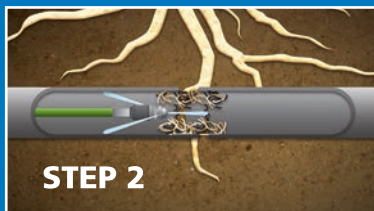
- Custom Liners
- Junction / Bends
- L.I.T's

► Watch our product info video online...

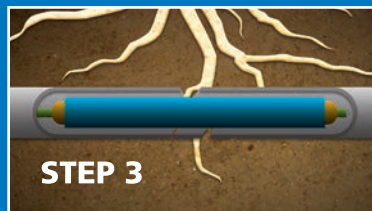
Call 1300 799 846
www.sapiperelining.com.au



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4

NSW Collins Inquiry into Construction Industry Insolvency

The need for change in South Australia is an obvious and pressing issue. The State Government has been forced to step in to subsidise the Building Indemnity Insurance Scheme after the insurer announced it was withdrawing due to the losses it was incurring.

These losses had grown with the downturn in the construction industry in South Australia, as the number of insolvencies ballooned. In NSW the situation is not dissimilar, the Collins inquiry in NSW has set forth a range of recommendations and the NSW Government is proposing to adopt most but not all of them.

The key recommendation of project bank account trusts on contracts will only be trialled on government contracts but it is not proposed to progress the construction trust recommendations (other than retentions) more broadly at this time. It seems to the PIA that this is the very core of the Collins recommendations that need to be implemented.

What will the NSW Government's response mean for subcontractors?

- Cash retention safeguarded via a Retention Trust scheme. PIA believes release of funds at the end of the period must be automatic
- Faster progress payments from head contractors via mandatory '30 days to pay' provisions
- Improved cash flow via new prompt payment provisions
- Direct payment from government for work on government jobs via a Project Bank Account trial
- Improved capacity to penalise head contractors who flout the rules.

What did the Collins Inquiry recommend? Four main areas of reform:

- Strengthened Building and Construction Industry Security of Payments Act
- New Building and Construction Commission
- New licensing framework with financial tests for builders
- Statutory construction trusts for all payments.

The Government response includes:

- Strengthening the security of payments scheme
- Introducing prompt payment provisions for subcontractors to be paid within 30 days
- Enacting a new legal requirement with offence provisions for head contractors who knowingly
- provide false or misleading information relating to the payment of subcontractors
- Making it easier for subcontractors to recover moneys owed
- Drafting of legislation incorporating these reforms will commence immediately.

Developing a trust scheme for cash retention money

- Establishing the first Retention Trust Scheme in Australia to protect subcontractors cash retention moneys
- Administered by the Office of the Small Business Commissioner with legislation to be introduced in the Spring Session 2013.

Reforming Government procurement practices

- Subjecting contractors engaged by Government to more comprehensive and more frequent financial assessments
- Implementing a trial of Trust Accounts through Project Bank Accounts used on a limited number of NSW Government construction contracts. Subcontractors will be paid directly by government agencies, rather than the head contractor.

Lifting the financial skills of Industry

Establishing an Industry Advisory Taskforce to:

- Develop education campaigns to improve financial management skills in the sector. The PIA notes that under National Licensing Business Units will no longer be required as part of a Certificate IV in Plumbing.
- Advise the Government on the impact of reforms and industry's capacity for further reform.

The Inquiry's licensing and building commission recommendations

- Government recognises the high levels of industry support for these proposals and the reasoning behind the recommendations
- To ensure that these proposals are properly assessed and understood, the Government has committed to a regulatory impact assessment and cost benefit analysis of these recommendations.

Construction Trusts

Government will trial project bank account trusts on Government contracts, but it is not proposed to progress the construction trust recommendations (other than retentions) more broadly at this time.

Strengthening the security of payments scheme

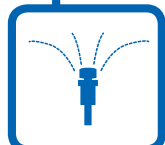
- Introducing prompt payment provisions for subcontractors to be paid within 30 days
- Enacting a new legal requirement with offence provisions for head contractors who knowingly provide false or misleading information relating to the payment of subcontractors
- Making it easier for subcontractors to recover moneys owed
- Drafting of legislation incorporating these reforms will commence immediately.

We urge all members to begin lobbying the Attorney General and their local member of parliament that similar proposed legislation in New South Wales be introduced in South Australia.

Your guide to Water Wise Measures

Visit www.sawater.com.au or call the Water Wise Hotline on 1800 130 952

USE SPARINGLY



Sprinklers

- Domestic gardens and lawns
- Can be used on any day only after 5pm and before 10am

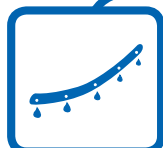


Other watering systems

- Domestic gardens and lawns
- Can be used on any day only after 5pm and before 10am

Swimming pools

New pools can be filled under a permit from SA Water. Before a permit is issued, SA Water requires proof of purchase of an approved pool cover.



Dripper systems

- Domestic gardens and lawns



Buckets

- Domestic gardens and lawns
- Washing cars and boats



Watering cans

- Domestic gardens and lawns

Sports grounds and recreational facilities

Sports grounds and recreational facilities can be watered under an Irrigated Public Open Space permit as negotiated with SA Water.

USE ANYTIME

High pressure, low volume water cleaner

- Washing cars and boats



Hand-held hoses fitted with a trigger nozzle

- Domestic gardens and lawns
- Washing cars and boats
- Construction sites



Construction sites

Water can be used for dust suppression and compaction when it is applied from a hand held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle or directly from a motor vehicle designed and approved to carry/deposit water.



Government
of South Australia



SA Water

Who is responsible for your leak?

Your responsibility

The property owner and/or occupier is responsible for the installation, repair, maintenance and replacement of all the private fittings and pipes that run from your property up to the water meter's outlet riser. If a leak is found in any of these pipes, it is your responsibility to have it repaired. You should only use the water meter's stop tap to undertake temporary maintenance or in an emergency. If the stop tap malfunctions as a result of misuse by you, we will not accept responsibility for any water loss or damage. We recommend using a licensed plumber to install an isolation valve in your internal pipe-work if you wish to control the water supply to the property. Please also help us by keeping the water meter accessible to allow easy access for reading and maintenance.

Our responsibility

SA Water is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the water meter and any pipes that lead away from the water meter to the water main. If you have identified a leak, blockage or overflow in the SA Water network, please phone us immediately. Our 24 Hour Faults or Emergency Hotline is 1300 883 121. We will then send a crew to attend the problem.

To find out more about our responsibilities please see our Customer Contract and Charter at www.sawater.com.au

Your business property

Your responsibility

SA Water responsibility



24 Hour Faults or Emergency Hotline 1300 883 121

This image is indicative only.

Commercial Plumbing

Passionate People



Above: Left to Right - Ruth McDonald and Jade Berry

This article was originally planned as “PLUMBING - Women in a man’s world” but has quickly changed to reflect the idea, “that there is a place, for those who are passionate about what they can achieve”.

Passion is the description, which comes to mind when you meet Ruth McDonald, Jade Berry and the team at TECH20. Their passion for plumbing is evident from the moment you enter the office of TECH20.

I was greeted by Jody in reception and made to feel at ease straight away. With enthusiastic help, I was quickly introduced to Nick, Ruth and Jade.

I had a chance to speak to them about their working world.

“TECH20 take a huge pride in their work, and love the fact we produce solutions where sometimes people believe there isn’t one,” said Nick, one of the TECH20 works supervisors.

Nick Cawood came to Australia from South Africa in 2010. Nick owned a plumbing company employing 25 plumbers.

“I am keen to support TECH20 with my knowledge and work experience, I love the challenge and the opportunity I have been given by Jason.”

Nick is Ruth and Jade’s direct supervisor and works with them on a daily basis.

“I have nothing but praise for Ruth’s skills, her guidance for Jade and the rapport she has built with clients, staff and colleagues.”

Ruth is a plumber with over 20 year’s experience, qualifying as a plumber in 1993.



Above: Jade Berry

She obtained her plumbing apprenticeship with the Department of Defence in Woomera whilst her family was living there, undertaking her trade training first at Whyalla TAFE and then Regency TAFE School of Plumbing.

“Ruth is an extremely hard working plumber and has a great sense of humour. The effort Ruth shows in her job is to be commended. I also like the way she pushes the envelope, Ruth can tread where a bloke never dares. It’s great to have her on board” said Jason, TECH20 general manager.

Jade decided she wanted to be a plumber after work experience at Smith Brothers and TECH20.

Jade was constantly harassing Jason Young, until he agreed to give her work experience.

TECH20 were so impressed with Jade they offered her an apprenticeship.

Jade began her apprenticeship three months ago, and has progressed at a rate that already makes her an integral part of the team.

Ruth is Jade Berry’s supervisor/mentor at TECH20.

Ruth and Jade are both attached to the Medical and Maintenance Department of TECH20.



Above: Ruth McDonald

Commercial Plumbing Cont...

Passionate People



Above: Ruth McDonald and Jade Berry

PIA got a chance to visit a site where the women were in action. To see them work as a team was a pleasure.

The automatic and smooth way they went about the task after just three months of working together reflects the rapport they have built together.

“Having the girls on team is great, some areas we work are sensitive and women in the work place offer a calmness that most guys can’t.

Areas such as the Pregnancy Advisory Centre, both staff and patients will readily accept a female plumber’s presence; otherwise this work would probably have to be done outside patient hours. This offers value for the client, a sense of peace for the stakeholders and allows the women to be as good as they can be at their job”. said Nick

Both women love coming to work each day because most days offer new challenges requiring problem solving and the use of knowledge and skills to complete quality work.

Jason and his greater team have built a very committed and loyal work environment.

From front of house to all the office and trades staff, the culture is to strive to be the best they can, deliver a service and product that stands as bench mark for a business of TECH20’s size.

It really was a pleasure to see passion for plumbing and excellence in service delivery.

It is always a pleasure to promote a businesses and people who reflect so positively on the industry as a whole.



Above: Ruth McDonald and Jade Berry



Above: Ruth McDonald and Jade Berry



Above: Ruth McDonald and Jade Berry



Above: Jade Berry

Legal Advice

Using Mobile Phones on the Road: Vehicles as Dangerous Workplaces

Using a mobile phone while driving is not only distracting, but may also create a dangerous workplace. Employers need to ensure that their directions as to the use of mobile phones are legally compliant.

A vehicle used for work purposes is a “workplace”. With this comes obligations under the Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (the WHS Act), which requires employers to provide a safe place of work. The WHS Act specifically includes a motor vehicle as being able to be a workplace.

By requiring your employees to be contactable whilst on the road, or imposing duties which require them to use a mobile phone while driving, may be in breach of the Australian Road Rules (the Rules). Rule 300 governs mobile phone use.

Specifically, it states that a driver of a vehicle must not use a mobile phone while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked. The only exception is where the driver is making/receiving a call and the mobile phone is:

- Secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle;
- Remotely operated by means of a device (ie. Bluetooth or headset) which is affixed to the vehicle and worn by the driver in the manner intended by the manufacturer.

To avoid doubt, the Rules make it clear that no driver is authorised to “use a mobile phone by pressing a key on the phone, or by otherwise manipulating the body or screen of the phone, if the phone is not secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle.”

Before you try and “MacGuyver” a mounting structure however, the Rules state that only those “commercially designed and manufactured” will suffice. The penalty for breaching rule 300 is an on-the-spot fine and three demerit points. This is in addition to any criminal offences which may flow on from such conduct.

Correspondingly, if it is found that the offending mobile phone use was the result of a direction by the employer, this will likely breach the WHS Act as mentioned above. Further, any injury sustained by the employer in this “workplace” would likely fall within the WorkCover legislation. This is in addition to liability to any third party affected by the employee's illegal mobile phone use.

Take Home Message for Employers

Employers need to:

- Be aware of the Rules and evaluate whether your organisation's current practices are compliant;
- If necessary, provide equipment which will allow your employees to attend to their mobile phone while on the road in a way which does not breach the Rules; and
- Consider implementing a new policy, or amend an existing one, to outline your expectations with respect to appropriate, legal mobile phone use and the consequences of non-compliant use.

Sonia Bolzon
Partner

Lynch Meyer
T > 8236 7688
E > sbolzon@lynchmeyer.com.au



Cassie Burfoot
Solicitor

Lynch Meyer
T > 8236 7664
E > cburfoot@lynchmeyer.com.au



THE BACKFLOW SHOP

BACKFLOW VALVES • PARTS • CABINETS • VALVE BOXES



BACKFLOW VALVES

- TYCO
- WATTS
- WILKINS
- AMES
- CONBRACO
- FLOMATIC

ALL SPARE PARTS FOR BACKFLOW DEVICES
METAL CABINETS • IN-GROUND VALVE BOXES
SALES • TESTING • INSTALLATION

Financial Advice

How Much Do I Charge?

The perennial question has been asked by a number of members in recent weeks and with good reason.

The downturn in the construction industry and consumer confidence continues to drive some of our members to the wall.

Inevitably the first response is to cut prices to win work in the hope of staying afloat. While this will work for a short time, inevitably any fat you are carrying is soon gone and you go broke.

The problem is made worse for plumbers sub contracting to builders doing exactly the same thing.

Cutting prices, trying to cut sub contractor rates below a profitable level, until the builder goes broke, results in dragging down many of their subbies.

Some members are riding out the downturn by getting jobs in the mines and other industries. It is certainly more sensible than cutting your prices to a point you aren't earning enough to pay the bills.

The problem is even worse in the regional areas. Typically most metropolitan members seem to be around the \$100.00/hour for maintenance work. In the regional areas, most seem to be charging about \$70.00/hour. They are certainly not getting rich. DPTI and Housing SA fees are lower again.

So how much do I charge?

The answer is never easy but there are a few fundamentals that you need to have in place in order to work out what you will charge:

1. What are your overheads/month? You need to have a precise picture of what its costs to operate your business. What are your material costs, vehicle costs, plant and equipment costs, training costs, legal and compliance costs, labour on costs etc. If you cannot itemise this to the exact dollar then you can't know what to charge.
2. How much profit do you want to make after you pay yourself a wage? Do not make the mistake of many businesses of trying to operate on a 2% profit margin. You will go broke.
3. How much of your day/week/month is billable? If you haven't worked out just how many hours you are actually working for a client, you can't know what to charge. Most maintenance companies have a productivity level of about 70%, your charges need to cover that non productive time.
4. What is your opposition charging? First you need to define your opposition because most plumbers are not your competition. Some specialise in commercial plumbing,

some in residential construction plumbing, some in maintenance for domestic customers, some for commercial clients. Some compete on price, some choose other points of difference such as specialising in gas appliances, leak detection, hydrojetting etc.

5. Competing on price is a slippery slope. It is better to promote your business on quality of work, punctuality, professionalism. Leave competing on price to those that are prepared to cut corners and sacrifice their reputation and therefore the opportunity to have repeat customers. There will always be plumbers who will compete on price. The 50 year old plumber, still living at home with mum, doing drain cleaning for \$25.00 an hour out of the back of his 1990 Commodore station wagon is not someone to try and compete against.
6. Charge for your equipment. Estimate the life of the equipment, the maintenance costs and operating costs so you can work out a fee structure for your plant and equipment. Not charging for plant means you are not including the cost in your pricing of a job.
7. Don't confuse cash flow with profit. Every business needs strong cash flow but if you are not actually making a profit, one day someone like the tax man will come knocking and suddenly you are bankrupt.

If you are not prepared to think as a business owner who happens to offer the service of plumbing, rather than thinking of yourself as a plumber who has to do all that rotten paperwork, maybe you'd be better working on the tools for someone.

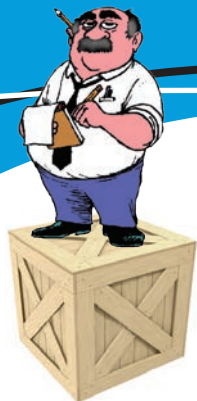
50 YEAR MEMBERS

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A S Carlson & Sons Pty Ltd | E J Northway & Son Pty Ltd |
| Baldwin's Plumbing & Gas | A J Paternoster & Son Pty Ltd |
| J H Hebbard Pty Ltd | D H Knight & Sons Pty Ltd |
| Warren Plumbing Services | N D Birchmore Pty Ltd |
| F S Scott & Co Pty Ltd | W.F. Gray & Co |
| Hall & Baum | Robert Farnham |

LIFE MEMBERS

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| J. HOLDER | D. J. HEBBARD |
| J. H. HEBBARD | D. J. HARGREAVES |
| S. B. HALL | R. R. FARNHAM |

JB'S SOAP BOX



The Certificate of Compliance

Have you taken the time to read the inside front covers of the humble Certificate of Compliance (COC) books for Gas and Plumbing? A friend rang me recently and asked for my advice because he is confused about the Plumbing COC. He is just not sure when he has to lodge a COC. He is comfortable when and what he should complete in a GAS COC and I think it's easy to see why.

It is clear that the expectation is that if you do any gasfitting work for a client you need to complete a COC. In fact it is in your interests to complete a COC for every gas job because it is your get out clause if you find faults or there is shoddy work completed by another gasfitter.

Unlike plumbing, there is a clear pass back to the consumer when they refuse to do what is legally required and leaves the task to the regulator, not the plumber. A good example of this in plumbing is some businesses refusing to service their TMV valves, where the onus is on the plumber to ensure compliance.

I think this should be dealt with by the regulator and if it needs expiations to be issued, then the OTR should have the power to expiate. Otherwise what is the point of legislation requiring plumbing standards?

Licensed plumbing contractor's responsibilities regarding Certificates of Compliance

The licensed plumbing contractor must give due notice to the OTR where plumbing and the equipment installed is:

- connected to SA Water's water/sewerage infrastructure; or
- not connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure although a connection point is available.
- in other cases as required by the Technical Regulator.

Otherwise, in regions where there is no SA Water sewerage infrastructure, due notice must be given to the relevant authority (usually the local council) where the plumbing or equipment is installed or altered. Such due notice may only be given by a plumbing contractor licensed under the Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995 and the work may only be carried out by a registered plumbing worker as prescribed.

The licensed plumbing contractor and the registered plumbing worker must fill in and both sign the Certificate of Compliance. The Public and Environmental Health (Waste Control) Regulations 2010 *require that approval must be obtained from the relevant authority (usually the local council) before any part of a waste control system (including wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems) is installed or altered.

This also includes systems connected to off-site disposal schemes such as community wastewater management schemes (CWMS). This work may only be carried out by a suitably qualified person licensed under the Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995 and the work may only be performed by a registered plumbing worker as prescribed.

GAS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE
for Gas Fitting and Auxiliary Electrical/Water Plumbing Work

OFFICE OF THE TECHNICAL REGULATOR

Telephone: 08 8226 5722
Facsimile: 08 8226 5866
Address: PO Box 1, Walkerville SA 5081
Web site: www.energy-sa.gov.au/otr
Email: dtel.otr@sa.gov.au

Government of South Australia
Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure

HELPING YOU USE YOUR ENERGY SAFELY

This form is to be used for gas fitting work and restricted electrical work associated with it. Use it also for water heater replacements, whether replacing gas with gas, electric with gas, or gas with electric. It should be used for the installation or alteration of fixed piping, including any equipment or appliances in gas installations (excluding motor vehicles). This form is NOT required for gas appliance maintenance and repairs, under normal circumstances. A certificate IS required if you alter a gas appliance to other than manufacturer's specifications, or "convert" an appliance (e.g., converting from NG to LPG).

The form comes as a set of 3, each set uniquely numbered. They are printed on NCR paper (no carbon required). Slide the cardboard flap under the set you are about to fill out to prevent leaving a written impression on other sets of carbonised forms. Use a pen and press firmly as you write, using BLOCK printing and ticking all appropriate boxes. Sign and date in the relevant places.

Here are some helpful hints on filling out relevant sections of the form.

Diagram and Notes
Provide a simple line diagram of the work you carry out, differentiating between what was existing and what is new or replaced. Add a few explanatory notes to describe the layout of the work done and appliances installed. If additional sheets are used, they must also be in triplicate, so that copies are provided for attachment to the original, duplicate and triplicate copies of the certificate.

Faults Identified
You must bring to the customer's attention any existing faults which you locate but which they choose not to correct. The customer's signature in this section confirms that you are not responsible for any damage or injury possibly resulting from these faults.

Details of Contractor
The contractor is the person the customer will contact if they experience problems with the work done, or if they want information and advice about the work undertaken or potential additional work. The contractor is responsible for the total work and may be audited.

Test/Check Certificate
You should only fill out and certify the parts of this section which apply to your own work. If a particular type of work is not carried out, leave that part of this section blank.

- If gas installation work has been done, the registered gas fitter must certify that work. The test for soundness must cover the work done and should include the existing installation.
- If auxiliary water plumbing work has been done, the registered plumbing worker or appropriately registered restricted plumbing worker must certify that work.
- If auxiliary electrical work has been done, the holder of the restricted electrical registration must certify that work.
- The contractor must certify that the total job complies with all requirements, and signs after all others have signed.

What To Do With The Three Copies
The first copy is the **CUSTOMER COPY**
- tear out and give to the customer on completion of the job or within 30 days.

The second copy is the **GAS SUPPLIER/SA WATER COPY**
- tear out and provide either to the gas supplier on completion of job or within 30 days (*for a new installation, or an alteration where the gas supplier is involved in connecting or reconnecting gas, or for all Type B Appliances) or to SA Water (**for a water heater replacement). In the case of LPG, it is recommended that the customer be given this copy to pass onto the supplier.

The third copy is the **CONTRACTOR COPY**
- leave in the book to provide documented evidence of the work done. You should keep them for at least 5 years, as you may be called upon to show them as part of a safety audit, and they may protect you from future potential litigation.

ENQUIRIES: Office of the Technical Regulator, phone 8226 5722

SEE THE CARDBOARD FLAP FOR INSPECTION & TESTING INFORMATION

JB'S SOAP BOX Cont. . . .

Please refer to page 21 to see the inside cover of the Plumbing COC. It is this part of the inside cover that causes his concern. Like most plumbers, he does not submit a COC for everything he does. It was not clear when SA Water, and now the OTR, exactly when a COC needs to be completed.

A few years ago a friend installed a new vanity that a client had purchased at Bunnings. To keep the story short, the client claimed there was a problem with his work and refused to pay. His work was fine but unfortunately the client had mental health issues.

SA Water inspectors became involved and he was reprimanded for failing to lodge a COC for the work. The matter was eventually settled in my friends favour, through the Small Claims Court but not before a significant loss of time and stress.

In some states there is a threshold for plumbing work. Work under a certain amount is exempt from a COC. This has caused problems with plumbers understating the cost of the work to stay under the threshold.

Failure to lodge COC's also creates another problem. A COC is a legal document which states the work has been carried out correctly and to Australian standards. It forms a protection for you if the work has been done correctly and protects the consumer if it hasn't.

It has implications for insurance claims and not enough weight is being placed on COC's and the need to complete them. Like the PIA, I believe that the regulator should charge for COC's and the cost passed on to consumers.

It then becomes a real insurance of work being carried out appropriately and would allow sufficient resources for the OTR to weed out most of the cowboys. The reality is that you will never get rid of them entirely.

The concern about paper work could be almost eliminated if COC's were electronic. I know the PIA has been lobbying the OTR for electronic COC's for over 12 months now and they have been promised that the OTR will go down this path by the end of 2014.

I've been shown the PIA BusinessMate's system and electronic COC's could be done easily in the system. You could have it so you can auto complete most sections and create a drop down list of all the tasks so there is almost nothing to write.

Email it to the client and OTR or direct feed into their database. It would mean a tiresome chore could be done in less than two minutes and the time taken would be while you are with the client so the customer pays.

I would argue there would be less problems and fewer matters going to Consumer & Business Services and through the courts if there was clarity in the obligations and rights of all parties and sufficient resources were put in to prevent problems. Therefore there would be less red tape and less cost to government in the long term.

A small minority will always take short cuts because they are lazy or can make an extra dollar. Some people will always break the road rules that is why the government has police officers patrolling our roads.

Is it too much to ask for adequate resourcing of the OTR to enable it to control the small cowboy element in the industry and protect the consumer?

Editor's Note: The PIA has invited the OTR to publish in the next issue of Plumbing SA a clear outline of how and when a COC should be completed.

Office of the Technical Regulator and
South Australian Councils

PLUMBING CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

SANITARY PLUMBING
SANITARY DRAINS
WATER PLUMBING

Book of official forms published under the authority
of the Technical Regulator

Government of
South Australia

Preamble

This form, the Plumbing Certificate of Compliance (also referred to as the "Certificate of Compliance") is to be used by the plumbing industry to verify that plumbing arrangements (including water services, sanitary plumbing and drainage systems) comply with the Water Services Act 2010 (the Act) under the Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 (the PEH Act) and the Plumbing Regulations 2010 (the Regulations), and that the work falls within the terms of the plumbing contractor's license and the plumbing worker's registration.

This form is issued pursuant to a notice under section 16(2) of the Act.

This form replaces previous forms.

This form has also been obtained by the Department of Health and Aged Care (DHAC) and South Australian Councils. This form comes as a set of four certificates. The first certificate must be completed and provided to the Office of the Technical Regulator (OTR) where plumbing and equipment are connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure, or not connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure although a connection point is available. The second must be provided to the owner or occupier of the property on which the work was carried out. The third (where applicable) must be provided to the relevant authority (Council or DMU) where the plumbing and equipment are not connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure. The fourth must be retained by the licensed plumbing contractor.

Licensed Plumbing Contractor's responsibilities regarding Certificates of Compliance

The licensed plumbing contractor must give due notice to the OTR where plumbing and the equipment installed is:

1. connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure; or
2. not connected to SA Water's sewerage infrastructure, although a connection point is available;
3. in other cases as required by the Technical Regulations.

Otherwise, in regions where there is no SA Water sewerage infrastructure, due notice must be given to the relevant authority (usually the local council) where the plumbing or equipment is installed or altered.

Such due notice may only be given by a plumbing contractor licensed under the Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995 and the work may only be carried out by a registered plumber working as prescribed.

The licensed plumbing contractor and the registered plumber working must fill in and both sign the certificate of compliance.

The Public and Environmental Health (Waste Control) Regulations 2010 require that approval must be obtained from the relevant authority (usually the local council) before any part of a waste control system (including wastewater collection, treatment and disposal systems) is installed or altered. This also includes systems connected to off-site disposal schemes such as community wastewater management schemes (COMMS). The work may only be carried out by a suitably qualified person licensed under the Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995 and the work may only be performed by a registered plumbing worker as prescribed.

**The Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 and the Public and Environmental Health (Waste Control) Regulations 2010 will be superseded by the South Australian Public Health Act 2011 and regulations.*



PIA TRAINING

PIA strives to provide quality, flexible training to it's Members, as well as the Industry.

Please visit our online Training Calendar to view the upcoming Training Programs on offer or contact us directly.

APPLY FIRST AID

**BUILD A BETTER
BUSINESS**

**HEALTH & SAFETY
REPRESENTATIVE**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

**MANAGE CONTRACTOR
SAFETY**

**RESTRICTED ELECTRICAL
LICENCE**

**RISK MANAGEMENT
FOR SUPERVISORS**

**SAFE WORKING
AT HEIGHTS**

**THERMOSTATIC MIXING
VALVES**

WHITECARD INDUCTION

**WHS AWARENESS
FOR SUPERVISORS**

**WHS HARMONISATION &
DUE DILIGENCE**

REQUIRE TRAINING NOT LISTED?

Let us know! The best way for us to determine courses which are a high priority to the industry is by requests and feedback.

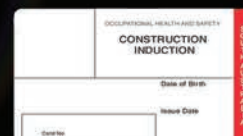
We will do our best to provide the training you require, or direct you to a provider who can assist your needs.

REQUIRE TRAINING FOR A GROUP?

We can come to you!

Various PIA Courses are available in group sessions, which means if you have a group of employees who require a particular course, we can arrange a date, time and venue which suit YOUR schedule.

**Selected courses only. Minimum numbers requirements apply.*



**FOR FULL INFORMATION OR
TO ENROL, VISIT www.piasa.com.au
OR CALL US ON (08) 8292 4000.**

Apprentices



Present Apprentice Profile

Wade Cowie

Year Level

Third year.

Pre-apprenticeship training

Pre-Voc Cert II in Plumbing in 2010.

Host

Intelligent Plumbing Solutions.

What type of plumbing have you been doing in your apprenticeship?

Commercial / industrial construction.

What do you like about the trade of Plumbing ?

Working with small and large bore copper including bending and welding.

What convinced you that this was the career choice for you ?

Originally leaning towards carpentry but got to do some irrigation work which sparked the interest in plumbing.

What do you do in your free time ? (sport, hobbies, etc)

I like playing with wood, making cabinets. I also enjoy playing social basketball.

What advice would you give a new apprentice ?

Dont overthink everything and simplify tasks.

Other interesting information (eg who you barrack for, your favourite film, food, music, who you would like to have a beer/ cider/iced coffee with? Who is your inspiration / mentor? Where was your last holiday? Where is your next holiday?

I follow the Adelaide Crows and listening to rock and club music. My goal is to complete my apprenticeship and be the first tradesman in my family. I aspire to have a productive and successful work life, to be happy and healthy with my own family.



Present Apprentice Profile

Michael Thomas

Year Level

Second year.

Pre-apprenticeship training

TAFE SA Regency Pre-Voc.

Host

Jordan Plumbing.

What type of plumbing have you been doing in your apprenticeship?

Underfloors, hot and cold water and ring mains.

What do you like about the trade of Plumbing?

The variety of work.

What convinced you that this was the career choice for you?

Getting to work outdoors and working hands on.

What do you do in your free time ? (sport, hobbies, etc)

Gym and golf.

What advice would you give a new apprentice?

Work hard and listen to the tradesmen you work with.

Other interesting information (eg who you barrack for, your favourite film, food, music, who you would like to have a beer/ cider/iced coffee with? Who is your inspiration / mentor? Where was your last holiday? Where is your next holiday?

I'm a Crows supporter and I love going to the gym. My mentor at the moment is Kai Greene. My last holiday was in Broome and hopefully my next holiday will be in Europe.

Apprentices Cont...



MasterPlumber
apprentices



Recent Events

PIA held an apprentice forum on the 11th September at the new Thebarton Community Centre, which was very well attended. This forum included guest speaker, Bob Clifford who talked about the Mates in Construction Mental Health program.

Awards / Commendations

Special congratulations to Wade Cowie who was awarded PIA's annual "Hip Pocket WorkWear High Achievement in a 3rd or 4th year Apprentice", and to Michael Thomas, awarded the annual "Hip Pocket WorkWear High Achievement in a 1st or

2nd year apprentice". Both apprentices received their awards at the Presidents Lunch.

Commencements

Tyler Bavington, Michael Dimuccio, Jordan Dower, Mitchell Low, Justin Milocco, Anthony Sholz, Ben Small, Louis Tayler, Levi Vass, Jack Wilkins and Trent Shields.

Completions

Ryan Collins completed in July having been hosted by Adelaide Plumbing and Civil and Jordan Plumbing. Ryan Flavel also completed in July having been hosted by Nathan Squires Plumbing from start

to finish. Sean Johnston completed in August having been hosted by Hartmann Plumbing, SA Plumbing and Hot Water, and Ian Wallace Plumbing. Congratulations to all 3, and a special thankyou to the hosts who have helped them get there.

Safety

Pop quiz...using dust goggles. When doing work that is dirty, dusty or that may involve splashes. Did you know that many foreign body incidents occur when taking the goggles off. To prevent foreign bodies falling into your eyes, facing downwards and moving goggles down and away from head so that dirt, particles and dust that may be on the outside of the goggles, in your hair or on your forehead, also falls away from eyes.

General Interest

The PIA Group Training Scheme has undergone a major re-branding with the intention of raising its profile and building on the Association's strategy to further professionalise the industry, whilst acknowledging its history. The Group Scheme will now be known as "Master Plumber Apprentices" and will operate as it does now, as a division of the PIA. Watch out for the new signage on cars, apprentice shirts and in the magazine.


Stillwell Ford

Tradesman Van

\$32,990

DRIVE AWAY



**CONTACT
RUSSELL:**



Russell Brealey

E: russellbrealey@stillwell.com.au

M: 0408 200 780

1 Main North Road, Medindie SA Ph 8269 9999

www.stillwellford.com.au

SAFE WORK

How Do I Select A Fall Arrest Harness?



In industry today, anyone required to drive a fork lift, truck or crane is obligated to produce a license demonstrating their competency. If you enter or work on a construction site you are required to have completed a Site Induction (White Card) competency course.

Yet any one can buy fall arrest equipment. There are no specific requirements placed upon the purchasers of this protective and lifesaving gear, no regulatory document mandating that the user shall have prior knowledge or be trained in its use. Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS1891.4 provides guidance for the following:

- user training
- identifying the key competencies and recommended core training elements
- performance criteria
- requirement for the selection and use of equipment.

Users of fall protection equipment are at the high risk end of the hierarchy of control, with countless incidents occurring each year. Incidents that may have been negated if the users were properly trained in the use and selection of fall protection gear.

This hierarchy, as a rule, is typically used when there is no other means of protection.

Manufacturers of fall arrest equipment recommend that any person using or intending to use fall arrest equipment be trained in its use and care, a requirement under AS/NZS1891.4.

However, it is not only selection that is important; it is the knowledge on how to use the equipment that will assist in the protection of the worker.

The use of industrial fall arrest harnesses and equipment requires some knowledge of the work to be carried out, the risks that are present and potential injuries that may transpire if an incident should occur.

Before working at heights and deciding which harness and attachment equipment to use, a risk assessment should be carried out to:

- Develop and provide a safe work method statement (SWMS)
- Identify the hazards and eliminate or control risks
- Provide a means of induction to the work and site
- Meet the legal requirements in identifying hazards and controls that may need to be put in place
- Provide for the type of PPE equipment required
- Prepare and provide a rescue plan

The development of the statement (with worker consultation) provides a platform for the workers to understand the risks and safety controls involved.

The statement would include the appropriate provisions and controls to overcome the hazards involved in the use and selection of any industrial fall arrest equipment required.

There is a vast difference in the variety of work requiring the use of fall arrest harnesses, lanyards and lifeline systems, encompassing a broad spectrum of techniques.

Legislation dictates that workers who are required to work at heights are protected from a fall, and that provisions are made to control such risks relating to the prevention of falls from height.

Fall protection equipment should only be used where it is not practicable to arrange for the work to be carried out with more suitably engineered systems such as walk ways, platforms and areas of work protected by hand rails or other engineered systems.

When fall protection equipment is used, it should be designed and positioned to prevent the worker from being in a situation that places him or her at risk of a fall.

The methods that can be used are:

1. Restraint Technique

A system of work positioning and restraint requiring the operator to wear a fall arrest harness and lanyard (preferably adjustable) combination, designed to prevent the user from reaching an area in which a fall could occur and thus free fall is not possible.

2. Restraint Fall

A system of work designed to allow a restrained fall only, such as may occur when working on a power pole, utilising a pole strap and fall arrest harness with side D-rings combination.

3. Limited Free Fall

A system of work requiring the use of a fall arrest harness and lanyard that will limit the free fall to 600mm, these are typically found when climbing a ladder or structure using a vertical fall arrest or rope access system.

SAFE WORK

How Do I Select A Fall Arrest Harness? Cont...



4. Free Fall

A system requiring the use of a fall arrest harnesses and lanyard, or other system of attachment, where there is a fall zone which may allow the worker to fall greater than 600mm. The changes to AS/NZS1891.1 has made it a little easier to decide on a fall arrest harness that can be used when working at height once the risk has been recognised and the need determined. There are only 3 points of attachment that can be used for fall arrest:

- Rear fall arrest attachment point
- Front fall arrest attachment point
- Lower body fall arrest attachment point (for the attachment of the line or lanyard).
- Note - side attachment points are restricted to pole strap use only or restraint on structures.



Users are able to select full body harnesses or lower body harnesses, determined by the work to be carried out, for e.g.

Harnesses with front fall arrest attachment points are ideal for:

- Roof work
- Ladder climbing
- Attached climbing
- Rescue

ExoFit™ XP Harness with front fall arrest attachment point



Harnesses with rear fall arrest attachment points are ideal for:

- Construction
- Work positioning
- Working in restraint
- Secondary fall arrest systems
- Structural work

ExoFit™ XP Harness with rear fall arrest attachment point



Harnesses with Lower body harness with fall arrest attachment points (sit harness) are ideal for:

- Suspension

ExoFit™ XP Harness with lower body fall arrest attachment point



The selection of a fall arrest harness needs to be made by a person who is considered to be competent. AS/NZS1891.4 defines a competent person as: A person who has, through a combination of training, qualification and experience, acquired knowledge and skills enabling that person to correctly perform a specific task.

A competent person can recommend the use and style of a fall arrest harness to most accurately provide protection to the worker as result of the risk assessment.

The regulatory bodies have stringent requirements for the use of fall protection in construction and general industry. These are enforced via the current legislation and standards which provide for due diligence in the work place and responsibility when working at height.

In Summary:

1. Ensure the person is trained to work at height
2. Conduct a risk assessment of the area and best method of completing work
3. Only then select equipment that is best placed to provide protection for that task

For technical advice & product supply, please contact Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety, Hilton at 126 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton, SA, 5033.

Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety can organise a consultation with a height safety specialist that can help you with an obligation free risk assessment for your own application and discuss the relative merits of all types of product options detailed above.

Contact our office on 8234 1920 or our Technical Products Manager Leo Casey on 0417 827 544 to discuss your specific requirements. Alternatively e-mail your details to hilton@hippocketworkwear.com.au

SAFE WORK

Anchor Points or Static Lines – Workwear and Safety



Anchor Points or Static Lines? – Making the right choice is a critical decision

There are many circumstances these days when working at heights is unavoidable. Even after following the hierarchy of control to eliminate risks through the provision of walkways or handrails is not achievable, leaving the end user/building owner with no other choice but to use fall protection equipment.

Choosing the right type of anchorage system can be a difficult task - there are clear advantages of single and multiple anchor point solutions as well as static line systems, however the right solution for the job is always dependent upon the nature of the project. An effective height safety solution using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requires 5 key components to be effective:

- A Anchorage Point** – a point to which a person can be tethered and capable of withstanding fall arrest forces.
- B Body Harness (full body)** – should be manufactured to Australian Standards and be capable of being fitted correctly to all users.
- C Connector** – to link the body harness to the anchorage point.
- D Decelerator** – a shock absorbing device designed to limit the fall forces on the body to less than 6kN.
- E Emergency Rescue Plan** – often forgotten however the most important element of the system to ensure that a person can be rescued safely without risk or injury to others and within a timeframe that limits the potential risk of other medical conditions such as suspension trauma.

The majority of larger employers are now very familiar with the individual components of the fall prevention system. Confusion still exists however about the correct anchorage system to use. The main reason for this confusion is that there is a vast array of factors in determining the most appropriate type of anchorage point to use.

The choice of whether to utilise single anchorage points, a static line system or a combination of both is dependent on such issues as:

- The nature of the work involved
- The frequency with which the work is carried out
- The time frame required to complete the work
- The skill level of the person completing the work
- The budget for the project
- The design of the roof or structure and materials from which it is made
- The height of the project
- How many people are required to complete work at the same time

The features and benefits of each system enable a person to make a choice on the right one to use in full consideration of each of these factors. Before proceeding to this discussion, one final definition needs to be covered. A system can be designed or rated for two main outcomes: Fall Arrest or Fall Restraint:

- **Fall Arrest System(1)** – a system designed to arrest a vertical fall by a person from height and minimise the impact on the body to a safe level.
- **Fall Restraint System(2)** – a system designed to ensure a person cannot physically reach a working edge or location and complete a vertical fall from height. If a fall occurs on the working platform, the person will be restrained from any vertical fall.

Both anchor point systems and static line systems can be designed for fall arrest and fall restraint. It is how they are used that determines whether they are the most effective solution.

Anchor Point System

Anchor points come in many forms and regardless of the selection criteria, the strength requirements are identical. A single person anchor point must be capable of withstanding a static load of 15kN while a two person anchor point must withstand 22kN.

Anchor points must be labelled showing their rating and date of commissioning. They require annual re-certification, which includes the updating of the labelling. The most basic form of anchor is the single point. Connection to the single anchor point must be made before exposure to the risk from fall and this generally means before leaving 3 point contact from an access ladder.

When using the single anchor point, great attention needs to be paid to the length of the lanyard and the fall clearance as well as the potential for pendulum effect from a fall at an angle to the anchor point.

Single Anchor Points

The most frequent type of use for single anchors is in small locations requiring limited lateral movement.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|--|--|
| A cost effective solution – ideal for locations requiring infrequent access | Requires 3 point contact prior to connecting from below |
| Limited trip hazard – relatively small with no wires to trip on | Movement is limited to a distance determined by the lanyard length for fall restraint applications. Fall arrest distance must be limited to 2m |
| Discreet – aesthetically the design can be incorporated to ensure the anchor blends with the roof and other extrusions | Connection and reconnection required to move between work areas – risk of being detached from the anchor point exists |
| Suitable for inexperienced users, provided that appropriate instruction is provided prior to accessing the work area | Cost of recertification can be high on a single unit basis |

SAFE WORK

Anchor Points or Static Lines - Workwear and Safety Cont...

Multiple Anchor Point Systems

The extension of the single anchor point is the use of multiple anchor points where a series of anchors can be aligned in any direction to allow movement across the elevated area.

The same restrictions apply for initial access but movement round the elevated position is possible by the use of twin tail lanyards that allow connection from one tail to one anchor while moving and connecting the second tail to the second anchor before returning to disconnect from the first.

An experienced operator can easily manage such movement, but the risk of disconnection before reconnection remains. Additionally the use of hand tools is restricted by the need for continual lanyard manipulation.

Multiple anchor point applications are most suited to areas where access is required very infrequently. Labelling and annual re-certifications apply to each individual anchor point.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|--|---|
| An up-front cost effective solution – ideal for locations requiring infrequent access | Annual recertification costs can be higher than a static line system depending upon configuration |
| Limited trip hazard – relatively small with no wires to trip on | Requires experienced users to access the area and perform work required and ensure minimum fall distances/fall restraint conditions are adhered to at all times |
| Discreet – aesthetically the design can be incorporated to ensure the anchor blends with the roof and other extrusions | Time wasting - connection and reconnection is required to move between work areas. This can increase the labour content on a job by up to 30%. There is also the risk of being detached from the safety line at times during the transition of moving between anchor points |



Need a quality plumbing apprentice?

Look no further than PEER!

- Quality apprentices
- Short and long term placements
- Hassle free employment
- Cost effective
- Apprentices come fully equipped with uniform and tools
- PEER takes care of all administrative tasks

Our process is fast and simple.
We save you time and money.



For more information please contact PEER today on:

p: 08 8348 1200

w: www.peer.com.au

e: mail@peer.com.au

SAFE WORK

Anchor Points or Static Lines – Workwear and Safety



Horizontal Life Lines (Static Lines)

The best solution for frequent work within a number of positions in an elevated site, is the use of a fixed lifeline system. In this configuration, anchor points are located at each end of the lifeline and intermediate brackets support the length of the line. The lifeline can be designed to accommodate corners and span large lengths. The intermediate anchor points can be either mounted to the roof purlins or where there is no sub-structure to the roof sheeting.

Systems are designed to act differently to accommodate the stresses of a fall from height, their main objective however is to absorb the energy from the fall. This means that either the anchors will bend to absorb the impact, or in the case of a roof sheet anchor, the roof sheeting may deform during the take up of the load.

A moving shuttle is attached to the line and the operator connects through a fixed length lanyard to the shuttle. The shuttle should pass freely and unrestricted through the intermediate brackets and ones with no moving parts prove to give the longest life without service. The operator connected to the lifeline then has full access along the line without any requirement to disconnect or reconnect. Safety is total, movement is unrestricted and the hands are free at all times.

The lifeline can be configured for either fall arrest or fall restraint applications. A major consideration for the lifeline design is ground clearance. Generally when a 12mm cable system is used, there is very little cable distortion, thus minimising fall distance and energy transfer to the structural components of the system. This also lowers the chance or risk of injury to the person.

An 8mm system is generally used for fall restraint applications, however can be designed to achieve a fall arrest. In this situation, distortion to the system will be much greater, hence the need to monitor the potential impacts from injury from a fall along with the increased allowance for ground clearance.

Lifeline systems allow total flexibility of operation and are either custom designed for the individual application (where the system must be individually tested and certified) or as a proprietary design. The anchor labelling and annual inspection and re-certification requirements still apply, however but are much faster and simpler than multiple anchor point re-certification.

There has been a large amount of discussion recently around deforming roof sheeting and the relative cost that this may incur during a fall. The key point is that both styles of systems are standards approved and work effectively. The cost of replacing a deformed roof anchor will be less in some situations than replacing a roof sheet, however the requirement to replace a deformed roof purlin that the anchor is attached to following a fall will naturally be a more expensive outcome.

| Advantages | Disadvantages |
|---|---|
| Can be a more cost effective solution than an anchor point system, depending on the application | Requires extra training to ensure users do not instigate unnecessary damage |
| Ideal for applications or area requiring frequent work access | Initial installation costs are generally higher |
| Design can be incorporated to ensure the life lines blend with the roof line and other extrusions | Can represent a trip hazard in certain applications |
| The time taken to connect and reconnect using an anchor line system is removed | |
| Suitable for workers of low experience – there is limited connection and reconnection issues to deal with | |
| Hands remain free at all times for work activity and carrying equipment | |

In summary;

- Every employer owes a duty of care to its employees in the workplace to prevent potential injury caused by a fall from height;
- The best way to minimise injury to employees is to complete a risk assessment of the workplace, and then employ strategies to prevent a fall;
- Elimination of the risk is always the best choice and fall prevention equipment should always be used as a last resort;
- The selection of the most appropriate height safety solution can be a confusing exercise – many systems can be employed that meet Australian standards, however there are a large number considerations to determine the most appropriate system. This includes understanding whether the protection should be for either fall arrest or a fall restraint;
- If possible to achieve, fall restraint is always a better solution than a requirement for fall arrest;
- The decision to use a roof anchor system or a static line system is always dependent on the specific project, rather than a specific set of product advantages and disadvantages, and the relative skill level of the operators.

Please contact Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety, Hilton at 126 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton, SA, 5033 to organise consultation with a height safety specialist that can help you with an obligation free risk assessment for your own application and discuss the relative merits of all types of product options detailed above. Contact our office on 8234 1920 or our Technical Products Manager Leo Casey on 0417 827 544 to discuss your specific requirements. Alternatively e-mail your details to hilton@hippocketworkwear.com.au

SAFE WORK

Suspension Trauma

Suspension Trauma is a term used to describe the potential after-effects of immobile suspension within a full-body safety harness following a fall from height.

The term is often used synonymously with the terms Suspension Intolerance, or the more commonly known medical terms Orthostatic Intolerance, Orthostatic Shock or Orthostatic Incompetence.

An informative note on this topic is detailed in the most recent update of AS/NZS1891.4:2009. There are wide-ranging views in the industry regarding the level of personal risk associated with the condition.

The most important point to note is that the rescue of a person as soon as safely possible is highly recommended to remove the risk of pre-syncope conditions affecting the suspended person.

In previous training activities, it has been recommended that a person suspected of suffering the effects of suspension trauma should be placed in a seated position following the rescue, with knees elevated, prior to laying them down in a horizontal or prone position (or recovery position in first aid parlance).

This action was intended to slow the movement of the pooled blood from the legs back to the upper part of the body and reduce the risk of internal injury.

This advice was provided on the basis of the best information available at the time.

Suspension Trauma has recently been reviewed by the Australian Resuscitation Council, including reference to international literature reviews on the matter and they have released Guideline 8.25 Harness Suspension Trauma – First Aid Management in response.

Apprentice Training with the SA Large Training Provider of the Year!

PEER VEET is a not for profit industry focused organisation with over 25 years of experience in employing and training apprentices and trainees.

PEER provides training to school students, pre-apprentices, apprentices and trainees and qualified tradespeople and you don't have to be employed at PEER to train at PEER!

Our Albert Park facility is the perfect location for PEER to service business in the Northern and Western suburbs of Adelaide. We have modern facilities, up to date training programs and invest heavily in new training.

PEER creates a flexible and interactive learning environment providing both theory and hands-on work in a flexible environment. Our qualified training staff have vast knowledge and experience in industry so you know your apprentice is getting the very best training.

PEER was recently awarded the 2013 In-Business Large Training Provider of the Year at the SA Training Awards held on 6th September 2013. PEER's strong industry connections and partnerships assist to make PEER an industry leader which is responsive to industry needs such as training for the electrification of the rail systems currently being undertaken in South Australia.



PEER offers a range of qualifications and courses in the following trade areas:

- plumbing
- electrical
- refrigeration
- security system installation
- voice and data communications



For more information or further enquiries visit

www.peer.com.au

Phone: 8348 1200

Email: mail@peer.com.au

SAFE WORK

Suspension Trauma Cont...

A copy of Guideline 8.25 may also be found on Australian Resuscitation Council website www.resus.org.au. The guideline differs from previous advice offered by leading equipment manufacturers in that the interim step of placing the victim in a seated position prior to laying them flat is not considered necessary.

The advice also quotes literature review references and based on a level of evidence and consensus of expert opinion, that because of the lack of documented research regarding the post rescue treatment (laying down vs seated), altering standard first aid principles away from treating the airway first could be detrimental to patient survival.

This is particularly relevant when the victim is unconscious. The Australian Resuscitation Council recommends the following patient management steps in Guideline 8.25:

1. Call for an ambulance – dial triple zero - 000
2. If unconscious, manage as per ARC Basic Life Support flow chart (Guideline 7)
3. Rest the conscious victim in a position of comfort, ideally lying down, and provide reassurance
4. Loosen or remove harness
5. Administer oxygen if available
6. Look for and manage associated injuries in all victims, but particularly victims who may have fallen or been electrocuted.
7. Monitor the signs of life at frequent intervals

References listed in Guideline 8.25 are as follows:

1. Turner N.L., Wassell. J.T., Whistler R., Zwiener J, Suspension tolerance in a full-body safety harness and prototype harness accessory. (Evaluation studies, Journal article) Journal of occupational & Environment Hygiene.5(4):227-31,2008
2. Lee C., Porter K.M. Suspension trauma. (Journal Article).Emergency Medicine Journal 24 (4):237-9,2007
3. Adish A., Robinson L., Codling A., Harris-Roberts J., Lee C., Porter K - Evidence based review of the current guidance on first aid measures for Suspension Trauma. Health and Safety Executive. Research report RR708. May 2009.

[Http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr708.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr708.pdf)

Leading manufacturers in this field are pleased that the Guideline 8.25 has been released; offering a First Aid Management system for the care of a victim that may be suffering with suspected Suspension Trauma conditions and recommends that this guideline be used in future accordingly.

For technical advice & product supply please contact Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety, Hilton at 126 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton, SA, 5033.

Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety can organise consultation with a height safety specialist that can help you with an obligation free risk assessment for your own application and discuss the relative merits of all types of product options detailed above.

Contact our office on 8234 1920 or our Technical Products Manager Leo Casey on 0417 827 544 to discuss your specific requirements. Alternatively e-mail your details to hilton@hippocketworkwear.com.au. BusinessMate incorporates policies to assist in developing working at height rescue plans.



3 GREAT LEADING BRAND KIT OFFERS from HIP POCKET WORKWEAR & SAFETY

for

Plumbing Industry Association Members

Valid for November & December 2013



Workwear & Safety



Workwear & Safety

Roof Workers Kit

AA1000AU



COMPLIANCE IN A CAN

Buy a Fall Protection kit shown

Receive a FREE pair of DUNLOP VOLLEYS

VALUED AT \$55.00

\$350 + gst

FREE OFFER



Personal Fall Protection Kit consists of:

- ✦ AB17510AU Fall Arrest Harness
- ✦ 15m Rope Lifeline with 1m
- ✦ Integral Shock Absorbing Lanyard
- ✦ AM450/150FAU
- ✦ 1.5m Round Strap
- ✦ Packed in rugged re-useable Carry Bucket

Construction Workers Kit

AA1020AU



\$300+ gst

Personal Fall Protection Kit consists of:

- ✦ AB17510AU Fall Arrest Harness
- ✦ AD104 2.1m Retractable Lanyard
- ✦ AM450/150FAU 1.5m Round Strap
- ✦ Packed in rugged re-useable Carry Bucket

MULTI BUY DISCOUNT

BUY 5 FALL KITS AS ABOVE AND ONLY PAY FOR 4*

*FREE SHOES NOT INCLUDED IN THIS OFFER

Contact Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety for all your safety requirements. All enquiries welcome

Show your PIA membership card or bring in this advertisement to be eligible for this special offer

CONFINED SPACE KITS



Standard TRADE Price
\$3,115 + GST

SAVE \$400

Now

\$2,715 + GST



KIT INCLUDES: TRIPOD, PERSONNEL WINCH, MOUNTING BRACKET, PULLEY, HARNESS (11643) AND CARRYBAG

REDUCED



Standard TRADE Price
\$6,035+ GST

SAVE \$800

Now

\$5,235 + GST



KIT INCLUDES: TRIPOD (2.13m), SALALIFT II WINCH, MOUNTING BRACKET, DELTA RIGGERS HARNESS AND CARRYBAG

HIP POCKET Workwear & Safety Retail Showroom: 126 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton SA 5033

Phone: 08 8234 1920 • Fax: 08 8234 8014 • Email: hilton@hippocketworkwear.com.au • www.hippocketworkwear.com.au

SAFE WORK

Product Life, Inspection and Certification of Fall Protection Equipment



Product Life

According to AS/NZS 1891.1, web products shall have a 10 year product life from the date of manufacture, after which the product must be removed from service. All other height safety equipment, such as type 1 fall arrestors and type 2 or 2/3 self-retracting lifelines, can be used as long as the inspection does not reveal any damage or wear that will affect the product's performance. These products must be inspected and certified according to the manufacturer's user instructions or AS/NZS 1891.4 requirements.

Activation Date

Typically the activation date is used to determine the next inspection or recertification and can be defined as any of the following:

- date of manufacture (on the product label)
- date of purchase
- date of last service
- date first put into service (written documentation of this date is required)

If an inspection is to be based on the date of first use instead of the manufacture, purchase or service date, it must be recorded in the inspection/maintenance log found in the user instruction manual. If the activation date is unknown, the product purchase / service / manufacture date should be used to determine when the product is due for inspection or recertification. Prior to placing a product into service, the product shall be properly stored according to the user instruction manual.

Inspection Frequency

Inspection frequency requirements must be followed according to AS/NZS 1891.4 or the manufacturers product user instructions. A manufacturer may recommend more frequent inspection and recertification if the product is exposed to a harsh environment or rugged use.

All inspection and maintenance data must be recorded in an inspection and maintenance log maintained by the company. Consult the user instruction manuals for complete details and information.

Hiring of Height Safety Equipment may be done by some Industrial Equipment Hire Firms, however we recommend that Personal Protective Equipment. Should be treated as life saving equipment and the operators take ownership for their own safety.

Storage of Harnesses, lanyards and other height safety equipment should be in sturdy storage equipment such as bags or cases, this protects the equipment from incidental damage and protects the equipment from becoming contaminated with any degrading agents or direct sunlight damage. To ensure the equipment achieves it's maximum life span storage in suitable containers is recommended.

The frequency of inspection and certification to determine the usability of the product shall be as follows:

SUMMARY OF INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

AS/NZS 1891.4:2009, Section 9

| Activity | Application | Reference |
|---|---|--|
| Inspection by operator before and after use | All height safety equipment including harnesses, lanyard assemblies, connectors, fall-arrest devices including common use devices | Clause 9.2 |
| 3-monthly inspection by competent person | Type 1, 2, 3, fall-arrest devices External check only | Clause 9.3.4 (a) |
| 6-monthly inspection by competent person* | Belts, harnesses, lanyard assemblies and associated personal equipment | Clause 9.3.2 |
| 12-monthly inspection/service by competent person* | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanently installed anchorages• Fall arrest devices (type 1, 2 & 3) – full service including dismantling where indicated (by manufacturer or approved service agent)• Horizontal lifelines and rails, including integral components and permanently installed mobile attachment devices | Clause 9.3.3 Clause 9.3.4 Clause 9.3.5 |
| In accordance with other standards | Ropes and slings | Clause 9.7 |
| Inspection on entry or re-entry into service | All items of personal and common use equipment | Clause 9.4 |
| Inspection after a fall arrest (and before further use) | All items which have been stressed as a result of a fall | Clause 9.5 |

SAFE WORK

Product Life, Inspection and Certification of Fall Protection Equipment

AS/NZS 1891.1 defines a competent person as:

A person who has, through a combination of training, education and experience, acquired knowledge and skills enabling that person to correctly perform a specified task.

Notes:

- Anchorages mounted in masonry shall be proof loaded to $\frac{1}{2}$ its design load every 12 months.

- State legislation may require more frequent inspections.
- For SRL inspection details refer to technical bulletin SRL003AU.

As recommended by the manufacturer, inspection scheduling for other fall protection equipment is given below.

| Equipment | Before & After Use | 1-Monthly Competent Person | 3-Monthly Competent Person | 6-Monthly | 1 Years | 2 Years |
|--|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Winches – Salalift I and II | YES | | | YES | Serviced & recertified | |
| Rescue Positioning Devices (RPD's) | YES | | | YES | Serviced & recertified | |
| Rescumatic Controlled Descent Devices | YES | | | YES | Serviced & recertified | |
| Lad-Saf Ladder Safety System | YES | | | | Inspected by competent person | |
| Tripod / Davit Arms / Support Structures | YES | | | YES | Serviced & recertified | |
| Load Arrestors – Equipment Only | | | | | Inspected by competent person | Serviced & recertified |

Removal from Service

AS/NZS 1891.4 states the following regarding removal of equipment from service:

- Any piece of equipment including both personal and permanently installed items, which has been used to arrest a fall or which shows any defect during operator or periodic inspection shall be withdrawn from service immediately and a replacement obtained if necessary.
- A label indicating the condition or defect must be attached to the equipment, and it must be examined by a competent person who will decide whether the equipment is to be destroyed or repaired/recertified if necessary and returned to service.

In the latter case, details of any repair shall be documented and a copy given to the operator.

In accordance with AS/NZS 1891.1, personal web products must be marked with a date by which they are to be taken out of service and destroyed (10 years from date of manufacture).

This date is located on the product description label.

For product inspection & tagging, technical advice & product supply please contact Hip Pocket Workwear & Safety, Hilton at 126 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton, SA, 5033.

Contact our office on 8234 1920 or our Technical Products Manager Leo Casey on 0417 827 544 to discuss your specific requirements. Alternatively e-mail your details to hilton@hippocketworkwear.com.au

Hot Products

PatchBox The Pipe Repair Kit



PatchBox

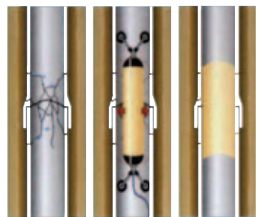
Need a permanent point repair system?

The PatchBox repair kit and Sava inflatable packers offers a complete and easy to use pipe repair system.



The PatchBox system was developed as a convenient, money saving solution to produce a permanent, high quality point repair in defective pipes.

The PatchBox kit contains a complete set of materials required to produce one repair of any diameter. Offering a cost-effective alternative to both purchasing of bulk materials and costly equipment.



The compact kit form is easily stored, allowing completion of many applications in a single visit. PatchBox Kit is specifically designed for use together with "Sava" range of inflatable packers.

Readily available for lengths of 600-1200mm, in diameters 100 - 1200mm. Other sizes are readily available for hire or sale.



Pneumatic Plugs

Owing to their construction, plugs can be easily inserted at an angle through connections into a main pipe efficient sealing of both connections and a main pipe is guaranteed.



Pipe Rehabilitation Packers:

Full range of multisized pipe repair packers from 70mm - 1200mm. Reliable and robust construction with flow through capabilities.

These all-purpose plugs are used for sealing and testing of pipeline tightness with air or water. Multi-size plugs are stretchable therefore only a few plugs are required to cover pipelines of different diameters.



All plugs are equipped with quick action couplings for inflation. The number and size of installed eyelet bolts depend on the plug size.



KRE ENGINEERING SERVICES

KRE Engineering Services

Sydney Office:
Unit 32 / 205 Port Hacking Road,
Miranda NSW 2228
Ph: +61 (02) 9522 4922
Fax: +61 (02) 9522 4933
Email: enquiries@kre.com.au
Web: www.kre.com.au

Member Benefits

Debt Collection – It doesn't have to be too hard

When Vennice Johns began work as a humble 17 year old legal secretary to a prominent Adelaide solicitor, she never dreamed she would end up as a director of a leading debt collection company. It is interesting how the experiences and events in your life end up taking you in directions you never imagined. Starting out many years ago under a different company name, working for a firm of solicitors as their collections agent, the business changed names along the way and evolved into the successful business it is today.

Vennice said, "We pride ourselves on customer service and personalised attention to meet the needs of all our clients. Unlike most agencies, any collection action is initiated immediately to obtain a response from any debtor as soon as possible. We can never guarantee success but we have an excellent success rate with debtors. We encourage you to act sooner rather than later when attempting to recover debt because the longer it goes on the harder it becomes to recover. We're available to help at any time. One must bear in mind also that it may be correct in principle to collect the debt but is it financially viable? As a professional collections manager with many years experience we will advise you on the correct lawful, financial and ethical procedure."

It is important to act correctly in order that as a client you have the greatest chance of receiving your money and not exposing you to the risk of counter claims of illegal or unethical practices that could lead to litigation. Johns Statewide offers a discount for PIA members and we would be happy to discuss with you at any time about any collection issues of concern to you.



Johns Statewide Collections
A Professional Debt Collection Agency

Our services include:

- A cost effective rate
- No joining fees and/or subscriptions
- NO HIDDEN COSTS
- Fast and efficient
- Commission only charged if successful
- Highly personalised service
- Credit control systems can be tailored to client's needs
- Personalised letters of demand to debtors
- Verbal and written reports
- Free legal advice
- E-lodgement of claims
- Skip tracing of missing debtors

PO Box 847
LITTLEHAMPTON SA 5250
p: 8391 3325
f: 8391 6992
e: johndebt@internode.on.net

Xero accounting completes BusinessMate



You have a busy business to run, so you have better things to do than to constantly be worrying about doing your accounting. Xero is the just the solution you have been looking for. It's not only the world's easiest accounting software, Xero gives you all you need to run your business. With the same

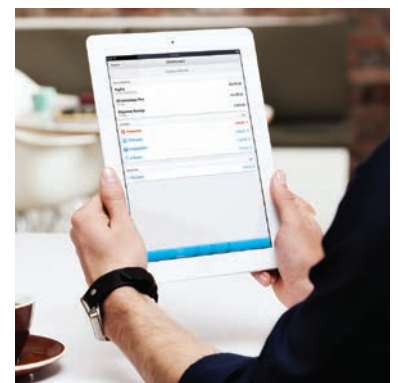
technology big businesses have been using for several years now, the cloud-based system gives you the flexibility to work when and where you want with the added peace of mind you will always have a secure back-up if something goes wrong with the office computers.

Offering full integration with BusinessMate, all your contact details and invoicing will flow smoothly to Xero resulting in greater efficiency, productivity, and allowing you to stay ahead of your competition. Add to that the ease of sharing data with your financial adviser in real time, via the cloud, therefore eliminating time consuming file transfers, and travel. And Xero allows you to take control of your own time with features that include:

- **Online accounting**
See your cashflow in real-time. Just login anytime, anywhere.
- **Financial reporting**
Up-to-date reporting with quick links to all the original transactions.
- **Payroll**
Do pay runs and track wage expenses or connect with your payroll system.
- **Bank reconciliation**
Automatically import and code your bank transactions.
- **And much more!**

Melding seamlessly with BusinessMate, the amalgamation with Xero will result in a complete management system, making it an even more cost effective solution that will take your business well into the 21st century and beyond.

If you are looking for accounting software that makes it so easy that you can actually work on building your business, you can't go past Xero. It's simply a better way to work. For more information about Xero, and the benefits for your business, contact the PIA to arrange a demonstration of both BusinessMate and Xero. Phone Paul Worthington on 8292 4000 or email paul.worthington@piasa.com.au.



Build your business with



BUSINESSMATE
INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Developed by the PIA



SCHEDULING

INJURY MANAGEMENT

PLANT & EQUIPMENT

STOCK & INVENTORY

ACCOUNTING & PAYROLL

SUB CONTRACTOR MANAGEMENT

TRAINING MANAGEMENT

CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

ON SITE INVOICING

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

WORK HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT

The power to control your business with one tool

Call the PIA on 8292 4000 today to arrange a demonstration



Quality Endorsed Apprentices on tap

TAPS is committed to providing Quality Endorsed Apprentices to the Plumbing and Roofing Industries through superior training methods and employer support services.

We guarantee it

- We select the best candidates
- Over 270 Apprentices in the field
- Over 100 active Host Employers
- Apprentice Placements for 1 week or up to 4 years
- Not for Profit Organisation
- Minimal paperwork
- Flexibility
- Ongoing support
- Additional training
- Hassle free process
- 15 years of providing Apprentices to the Industry
- Dedicated to exceeding Industry Safety Standards

www.tapssa.com.au
(08) 8433 1200



Receiving CITB Funding Assistance



ISO 9001:2000
FS 520483

Industry Members

BioCycle - Jowa Group Pty Ltd
 Cooke Precast Concrete Pty Ltd
 Davey Water Products
 L W Gemmell a division of Hills Industries
 Northern's Plumbing Supplies
 Reece Pty Ltd
 Rehau Pty Ltd
 Rheem Australia Pty Ltd
 Rinnai Australia Pty Ltd
 TAFE SA (Regency Campus)
 VTM Valves

Affiliate Members

Aquamax Pty Ltd
 Architectural Water Solutions
 AsBuilt Technical Services
 Auspex
 Blucher (Aust) Pty Ltd
 Carter Corporation Pty Ltd
 CB Ideal Tapware
 Con-Serv Corporation (Australia) Pty Ltd
 Crane Enfield Metals Pty Ltd
 3M Purification
 Dial Before You Dig SA/NT Inc
 Ecovortek Pty Ltd
 Eco Building Supplies
 Envestra Ltd
 Enware Australia Pty Ltd
 FilterWorks
 Galvin Engineering
 Gramall Hot Water Systems
 Grundfos Pumps Pty Ltd
 Gutter Guard Co.
 Harsmith Building Products
 Heaven Fresh Australia
 In-Sink-Erator
 Iplex Pipelines
 Johns Statewide Collections Pty Ltd
 OAMPS Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd
 QHSE Integrated Solutions
 PEER Training
 Perks
 Purifiers Australia Pty Ltd
 Quantum Eco Hot Water
 Rain Harvesting Pty Ltd
 Reece Pty Ltd
 Reliance Manufacturing Company
 Ridge Tool (Aust) Pty Ltd
 Ri-Industries
 Robert Bosch (Australia) Pty Ltd
 Rocla Pipeline Products
 Stibel Eltron (Australia) Pty Ltd
 Studor Australia
 Tradelink Plumbing Supplies
 Training Prospects
 Viega Pty Ltd
 Waterco Limited
 Wesfarmers Federation Insurance Ltd
 Wireless Communications
 Zip Heaters Aust Pty Ltd

Support the companies that
 support the industry and your
 association



Northern's

**PLUMBING
 SUPPLIES**

The Plumbing Industry Association strongly
 recommends members support the products of
 our major sponsors.

Executive Committee

PRESIDENT:

Dale Anderton - *Jordan Plumbing*
 Phone: 8440 0400
 Email: dale.anderton@rajordan.com.au

DEPUTY PRESIDENT:

Rob Pavan - *Hindmarsh Plumbing Services Pty Ltd*
 Phone: 8403 830
 Email: rpavan@hindmarshplumbing.com.au

INDEPENDENT CHAIR:

Natasha Hemmerling Legal Practitioner
 Phone: 0417 806 217
 Email: nhemmerling@adam.com.au

TREASURER:

Damon Hammond - *Perks & Assoc.*
 Phone: 8273 9300
 Email: dhammond@perks.com.au

COUNCILLORS:

Steve Adams
 Phone: 8344 6104

Intelligent Plumbing Services
 Email: iplumbing@bigpond.com

David Hurst
 Phone: 8234 5000

Smith Brothers Plumbing
 Email: dhurst@smithbrothers.com.au

Louis Visintin
 Phone: 8261 7044

Maesbury Plumbers
 Email: lvisintin@maesbury.com.au

Nathan Wundke
 Phone: 0410 838 876

Nathan Wundke Plumbing
 Email: nathanplumbing@gmail.com

Staff

Andrew Clarke - Executive Officer

m: 0438 282 448
 e: andrew.clarke@piasa.com.au

Paul Worthington - Marketing & Membership Manager

m: 0407 407 221
 e: paul.worthington@piasa.com.au

David Butcher - Group Training Manager

m: 0447 010 812
 e: david.butcher@piasa.com.au

Crystal Balazs - Training Coordinator

e: crystal.balazs@piasa.com.au

Marilyn Sheffield - Field Officer

m: 0488 909 185
 e: marilyn.sheffield@piasa.com.au

Shane Blanden - Field Officer

m: 0407 130 756
 e: shane.blenden@piasa.com.au

Rob Kavanagh - Training Officer

e: rob.kavanagh@piasa.com.au

Deirdre Boyd - Administration Manager

e: deirdre.boyd@piasa.com.au

Siobhan James - Administration Officer

e: siobhan.james@piasa.com.au

Frances McCaffer - Administration Officer

e: frances.mccaffer@piasa.com.au

Hot, hot, hot water.



The innovative
3-pass flue system
only available on
Rheem STELLAR®.

Rheem STELLAR

- Patented 3-pass flue system for greater efficiency
- Superior hot water recovery of 200L/Hour*
- 330L or 360L first hour capacity* – enough hot water for the largest family
- 10 Year Warranty^
- Australian made

COMES ON STEADY, HOT AND STRONG.

INSTALL A



AUSTRALIA'S NO. 1