



Infobrief

2017 | EDITION 6

Supervision requirements non-negotiable

WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT SUPERVISION

Peter Jackson

CHAIRPERSON



REFRESH YOURSELF
ON SUPERVISION
REQUIREMENTS

Go to:

[www.pgdb.co.nz/
trade/licensing](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/trade/licensing)

The 2017 roadshows have again far exceeded expectations. These events have been well attended, and a welcome consequence has been the chance to meet with many tradespeople and hear their concerns.

The strategic focus implemented by the Board last year to target those working without authorisation is having an impact.

Our measurement indicators point to the Sort the Pros from the Cons campaign having a positive effect in protecting the health and safety of the public, their insurance and elevating the importance of legitimate tradespeople. (see page 2)

The campaign has been the key driver in the success of the R.A.C app.

Good ground is now being covered by our investigations team, and the industry itself, who are delivering intelligence and highlighting hot-spot areas with the app.

Take a look at www.pgdb.co.nz/app to see where our industry reports are coming from.

It is pleasing to see that this initiative is proving to be effective. However, instances of poor supervision continue to feature in complaints that are received by the Board.

If you are a certifying tradesperson who supervises other tradespeople, trainees or exemption holders you take on a significant responsibility and can be held accountable for work that does not meet required competence standards.

There are no excuses – restricted plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying work has to be done by trained and licensed professionals for very good reasons. Poor supervision can significantly impact on public health and safety.

DON'T MISS

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- **In the media - shutting it down** [page 03]
- **Are you misinformed** [page 05]

It is for this reason we are serious about supervision, and for those who come to our attention there are consequences.

Supervision guidelines can be found on the PGDB website. I encourage all supervisors to download the guidelines to ensure they are up to speed. And, do take the time to give your feed-back on the best way we can deliver this information to you at www.pgdb.co.nz/trade.

We will continue to target unauthorised work over the next twelve months. Expect to see more enforcement action, a focus on the monitoring of supervision requirements and the elevation of public awareness to the next level.

THE BOARD'S FOCUS

CE update

“ We have put a concerted effort into targeting unauthorised work - feed the app. ”



PUBLIC AWARENESS IS WORKING

Martin Sawyers

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Board has put a concerted effort into targeting unauthorised work over the past 12 months, and one of the key tools we have used has been our public awareness campaign.

With the Board only having three full-time investigators, the reality is that we simply will never have enough staff to stamp out unauthorised work by prosecutions alone. Instead, a key part of our strategy is to reduce the demand for unauthorised work by informing the public of the risks of using cowboys to carry out restricted work.

The public awareness campaign, “Sort the Pros from the Cons”, has been very successful. With a total campaign audience of 8.5M, it has a wide reach and it increased the number of consumers seeking information from our website by 150%.

What this tells us is that consumers are increasingly prepared to look on our public register to see if the person they intend to use is licensed.

Following on from that campaign, we recently ran a series of

articles in the NZ Herald online, focusing on the dangers of consumers using cowboys to do restricted work.

The Board recognises that this campaign, and associated articles highlighting what can go wrong, needs to run over several years (a bit like a seatbelt or drink driving campaign), to ensure that the public understands what is at stake when they engage in an unauthorised person.

It is the value that this campaign has created in protecting the health and safety of the public, their insurance and elevating the importance of legitimate tradespeople that has driven the success of the R.A.C app.

The R.A.C app which allows both the industry and public to help identify these individuals now has over 12,000 downloads.

The launch of the Sort the Pros from the Cons campaign achieved

8,000 downloads alone over that three-month period.

One comment I hear from a few practitioners is that it is up to the Board to catch these people and that they don't have time to provide us with information. Unfortunately, this is a bit like asking us to find a needle in a haystack. We have an entire country to cover with limited resources.

We are regularly receiving reports and intelligence that lead to successful targeted enforcement operations. Do keep feeding the app with any information you have - it's working.

While we have focused on unauthorised work, we do continue to deal with complaints about practitioners. Fortunately, most practitioners provide their services professionally and perform them to a high standard.

However, there are exceptions and those who cut corners can expect to come to our attention.

In the media

www.pgdb.co.nz/consumer



Cowboys 'raided' by investigators
 15 Aug, 2017 3:14pm
 ⌚ 4 minutes to read



Water filters carry \$10,000 danger
 8 Aug, 2017 4:03pm
 ⌚ 3 minutes to read



Boom threatens different kind of boom
 31 Jul, 2017 9:34am
 ⌚ 4 minutes to read



The law even politicians don't know
 21 Jul, 2017 2:42pm
 ⌚ 4 minutes to read



www.pgdb.co.nz/publications/news

| MEDIA RELEASE |

Regulator rules \$7,000 fine and suspension of practising licence.

UNAUTHORISED WORK

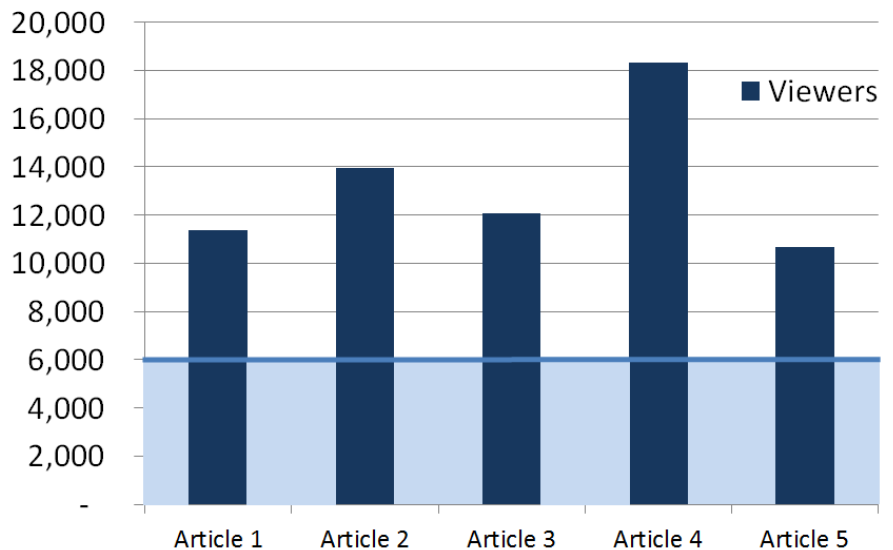
Shutting it down

Breaking records

“ We recently ran a series of articles in the NZ Herald, focusing on the dangers of consumers using cowboys to do restricted work - and broke viewer records. ”

The NZ Herald benchmarks for unique browsers (viewers) of articles can vary greatly. Article numbers can range anywhere from 500 up to 6,000 unique browsers per week when an article is featured. The PGDB's first 5 articles broke benchmark records.

View articles at www.pgdb.co.nz/consumer



Feed the app

[It's working]

More than 200 notifications received that have led to targeted operations in Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch and Queenstown. There are also operations currently in the planning stage in relation to other identified problem areas.

See where R.A.C reports are coming from at www.pgdb.co.nz/app

12,000+
 R.A.C downloads



Get it Here



www.pgdb.co.nz/app

Media response

RECENT MEDIA PROMPTS CALL FOR GASFITTERS

Recent media highlighting the PGDB's reports of an upsurge in complaints about unauthorised gasfitting of motor homes has prompted a call for gasfitters.

The NZ Motor Caravan Association (NZMCA), is a large organisation of some 75,000 individual members and owners of 38,000 motor homes and caravans within New Zealand.

Their members are finding it increasingly difficult to find registered and licensed gasfitters to undertake work on motorhomes and caravans.

As this organisation is presently experiencing huge growth of membership (nett growth of some 13% per year), there is considerable work available for gasfitters within this group.

Find out more at: www.nzmca.org.nz/contact-us



PLUMBER / GASFITTER - WHAKATANE BASED

ElectriServ, a member of the Horizon Energy Group, based in Whakatane is recruiting for a Plumber / Gasfitter to join the team to provide commercial, domestic and industrial plumbing/gasfitting installations and servicing.

To be successful a candidate will require the following qualifications and experience:

- must have completed a four year apprenticeship and completed a National Certificate in Plumbing and Gasfitting
- hold a current NZ registration and licence as a plumber/gasfitter
- minimum of 5 years proven experience in associated activities
- hold a current New Zealand drivers licence
- able to undertake rostered standby/callout duties as required.

The Horizon Energy Group takes pride in its commitment to the health and safety of all its stakeholders and bases all its activities on

safety leadership, risk management and worker participation as premise.

To support this, you will have excellent communication and problem solving skills, sound industry and product knowledge, be safety focused at all times, possess a high degree of initiative, able to think clearly under pressure and most of all be a team player.

Applicants must be legally entitled to work in New Zealand. Assistance with relocation costs may also be considered for suitably skilled applicants.

ElectriServ can offer a challenging position with a competitive remuneration in a location with a lifestyle that is hard to beat.

To apply for this job go to:

horizonenergy.recruitment.co.nz and enter ref code: 3766286.

Applications close 20 October 2017.

Are you misinformed?

UPDATING THE LEVEL 4 APPRENTICESHIP

“ Existing plumbers will not become drainlayers and existing drainlayers will not become plumbers. Existing qualifications and registrations are not affected. ”

The result - change in 2018

Over the past three years The Skills Organisation, industry representatives from all three trades, and the PGDB have been working on updating the level 4 apprenticeship.

The result of that process has been that some changes are being finalised and will come into effect from 2018.

One of those changes that you may have already heard about is that from next year every apprentice who is trained to be a plumber will also be trained as a drainlayer. There is some misinformation about this change.

To clarify - the main points to note are:

- Existing plumbers will not become drainlayers and existing drainlayers will not become plumbers.
- Existing qualifications and registrations are unaffected.
- The change does not affect existing apprentices.
- Those wanting to train only as drainlayers will be able to.
- Apprentices commencing their plumbing apprenticeship from 2018 will also be trained as drainlayers. They will complete additional block courses to ensure training in both trades.
- As is the position currently, during the apprenticeship any drainlaying work that they carry out will need to be supervised by a certifying drainlayer.
- Those apprentices who do not have a certifying drainlayer that they can work under will need to do any practical work and testing in the polytech environment.
- Those apprentices who wish to become tradesman drainlayers at the end of their apprenticeship will still need to pass the registration exam.
- As is the position currently, any tradesman drainlayer will need to be supervised by a certifying drainlayer.
- Those who wish to become certifying drainlayers will still need to complete any qualification/exam prior to registering at that level. Two years in the trade and the certifying level exam.

Tech tips

HWC DRAINS REVISITED

Further clarification



In a recent Info Brief tech article, we touched on HWC Drains and received a lot of useful industry feedback around this topic which has highlighted the need for further clarification.

In the original article, the intention was to remind practitioners that the temperature of the water discharging from the TPR should be considered when selecting the pipe for a particular installation.

In taking this approach it appeared to imply that copper should be used for all pipework in a plumbing and drainage system serving a TPR drain. However, this is not the case.

The original article did not take into account all possible HWC installations and circumstances.

For example: (not an exhaustive list)

1. G13/AS1 is for buildings 3 levels or less. Anything higher and it requires a design approved by the consenting authority. Typically a design complying with AS/NZS3500.2 is accepted standard practice in New Zealand.
2. New Zealand has a performance-based standard where alternative solutions can be used if they can be proven to meet the mandatory provisions of the Building Code.
3. The point of physical discharge where the copper relief terminates, i.e over a tundish.
4. The actual total volume of the HWC.
5. The heating source of the HWC, i.e controlled or uncontrolled heating source.

The failure of both the thermostat and over temperature device in order for the TPR to fully activate.

In normal situations, if the TPR is relieving then the cold water expansion (CWE) will be relieving as well. This can dilute the temperature when discharges from both the TPR and CWE meet.

IN SUMMARY

A practitioner should take in to account all circumstances when deciding what material to select.

Copper will be suitable in most circumstances with regards to temperature. However, other material may be suitable when all the circumstances of an installation are considered.

There are many factors to consider when selecting the pipework material that is to be downstream of the relief valve discharge termination point.

YOUR FEEDBACK

Thank you to those who took the time to give the Board's help desk a call and discuss this topic. We appreciate and encourage any feedback and questions you have around further clarification of tech tips.



Have questions? Give us a call 0800 743 262

Top talent

MERIT AWARD WINNERS

Another year of high achievers

“Congratulations to Michael Williams , Warren Shervey and Sven Hogenesch - our 2017 Merit of Excellence Award winners. It is top performers such as these who are contributors to the growth of the industry and lead by example in raising the profile and ensure the highest of professional standards within the trades.”

Peter Jackson



From the left: Michael Williams (Plumbing), Warren Shervey (Drainlaying), Sven Hogenesch (Gasfitting), Peter Jackson (PGDB Chairman)

Michael Williams - Taupo

Michael started his plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying apprenticeship in 2005.

He completed both National Certificates in Plumbing and Gasfitting for tradesman level in 2010. Micheal achieved the second highest mark for the plumbing that year.

He registered as a tradesman plumber in June 2011, and passed the certifying plumber exam in June 2016 scoring 86.5 marks and became registered as a certifying plumber in September 2016.

Warren Shervey - Wellington

Warren started his plumbing and gasfitting apprenticeship in the 90's. He became registered as a plumber and gasfitter in 1996, and then as a certifying plumber and gasfitter in 2004.

He then went on to become registered as a tradesman drainlayer in 2016 after having completed his National Certificate and passing his tradesman drainlayer exam.

He sat his certifying exam in November 2016, scoring 94 marks and will be eligible for registration as a certifying drainlayer in 24 months.

Sven Hogenesch - Hawkes Bay

Sven started his training in plumbing and gasfitting in 2008, adding drainlaying in 2010. Passing his plumbing and gasfitting exams and completing his National Certificates, he registered as a tradesman plumber and gasfitter in 2012.

He passed his tradesman drainlaying exam in 2015, and became registered as a tradesman drainlayer in 2016. He then sat his certifying level exams for plumbing and gasfitting in 2016, scoring 94.5 in gasfitting.

Sven became registered as a certifying plumber in 2017 and is eligible for registration as a certifying gasfitter.

Support it [it's working]

www.pgdb.co.nz/trade

SEE THE TV COMMERCIAL ON THE BLOCK,
1 NEWS NOW, 3 NEWSHUB AND FAIRGO

SORT THE PROS FROM THE CONS



Jonathan Smith

- Certifying
- Tradesma
- Journeyman



Plumber

Gasfitter

Drainlayer

Details of the work that is allowed to carry out are available at www.pgdb.co.nz



ASK TO SEE THEIR CARD

Find out more at www.pgdb.co.nz

New Zealand homes have a complex network of pipes and fittings that can be under high pressures, high temperatures, gas, electricity and other hazards. For plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying work, you need an authorised professional. But how do you make sure they really are one? Ask to see their card.

email comms@pgdb.co.nz for promotional material