



# Infobrief

2017 | EDITION 8

It's essential to understand quickly shifts in industry pain points and movement in trends

## A WHOLE INDUSTRY APPROACH

**Peter Jackson**

CHAIRPERSON



REFRESH YOURSELF  
ON SUPERVISION  
REQUIREMENTS

Go to:

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

**W**e are always interested in finding out more about new technologies and innovative ways to use them. We know it's important to ensure we are nimble in our approach to industry challenges in the regulatory space. The Board's Report-A-Cowboy mobile app (R.A.C) has been a success story – and not just for the PGDB.

As part of an increased focus on unauthorised work, R.A.C was developed as a reporting and intelligence tool to effectively help deal with unauthorised work within the construction industry swiftly.

We are now seeing increased numbers of cowboy operators being identified and it's because the industry is working with us, to better detect them – and fast.

The addition of the R.A.C app to our unauthorised work strategy has allowed us to be a lot more agile than ever before.

The R.A.C app has attracted more than 12,500 downloads from both tradespeople and consumers – with more than 210 reports made.

Intelligence received through the app has led to targeted operations in five large regional hot-spot areas identified.

The Board recognises that the whole building sector is under pressure in New Zealand.

We need to take a whole-industry approach to ensure shortcuts

don't happen and illegal activity is dealt with under such strained circumstances.

Everyone is feeling the pressure, particularly in Auckland, to build more and more. R.A.C is a success story and it's working – which is why we are upgrading its features and extending this technology and approach to cover the whole industry.

We are looking to take a unified front in the approach to eliminating those working illegally in the construction industry across all trades.

What else is new on the agenda for the PGDB?

We know our practitioners, key stakeholders and consumers feel more confident when support is made easy, hassle-free and instantaneous. And, we want to ensure transparency with our communications.

In 2018 we will be implementing live-chat into the service mix – a Chatbot in training strategy.

It's a simple, but very effective, recipe for improving both our customer service and our communications.

It will give us further insight and ability to discover practitioner, key stakeholder and consumer pain points – faster problem resolution is a major focus for 2018.

## THE BOARD'S FOCUS

# CE update

“ A welcome piece of news our Board received recently from The Skills Organisation is that there has been 30% growth in apprenticeship numbers this financial year. ”



## SKILL SHORTAGE

### Martin Sawyers

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

One way that the skills shortage is being filled is through foreign trained tradespeople. There are two pathways that a person can follow. These processes for foreign tradespeople provide a sensible pathway for them to register in New Zealand, whilst at the same time ensuring that the high standards of our trades are maintained.

From the feedback I have received from practitioners, it is clear that most parts of the country are having problems attracting skilled tradespeople. I want to use this month's Info Brief as an opportunity to urge those who can take on apprentices to do so. And, also to let you know how tradespeople immigrating to New Zealand can have their overseas qualifications recognised.

The Skills Organisation [Skills] are putting most of the increase in apprenticeships down to the fact that the CPD days have provided an opportunity for them to talk to employers directly and encourage them to sign up to take on apprentices. For instance, at the CPD day in Thames, they had six new employers express interest in taking on apprentices.

However, with the shortage, we need to keep on growing the number of new people being trained. Hopefully, the new form of apprenticeship being offered from next year, will prompt even more

employers to see the value in training the next generation of tradespeople. The scheme has more emphasis on training rather than assessments at the block courses.

Another way that the skills shortage is being filled is through foreign trained tradespeople. There are two pathways that a person can follow in order to get their foreign qualifications recognised. Firstly, they can have their qualification recognised by Skills as being equivalent to the New Zealand Level 4 Qualification. If Skills assess it as being equivalent, then the person has to then pass the registration exam. From there they can register with the Board in their trade. To help speed up this process, next year, the Board has engaged Skills to map common overseas qualifications to the New Zealand qualification.

The problem in the past has come about when a person's overseas qualification does not match the New Zealand qualification. Skills

have a process called Recognised Prior Learning which helps to fill this gap. Skills will assess a person's overseas qualification and also any work they can demonstrate they have competency in and then work out where the gaps are.

They will then design a training course for the person to follow in order to fill those gaps. When they have completed that course and have passed the relevant registration exam they will be issued with a New Zealand Level 4 Certificate, which will allow them to register in New Zealand.

This process for foreign trained tradespeople provides a sensible pathway for them to register in New Zealand, whilst at the same time ensuring that the high standards of our trades are maintained. Anyone wanting more information about these pathways should contact Skills directly.

## Recent infringement notice issued

### GASFITTERS BE AWARE

#### Not understanding the means of compliance for work undertaken costs.

Energy Safety recently issued an infringement notice to a gasfitter who issued a gasfitting Certificate of Compliance (CoC) indicating that the work performed complies with AS/NZS 5601.1 when the work did not in fact comply.

Gasfitters have to ensure that the gasfitting work they do complies with the relevant provisions of the Gas (Safety and Measurement) Regulations 2010.

Each of these regulations cites an installation standard that contains a means of compliance that installation should comply with.

Gasfitters who undertake installation work need to ensure they understand and follow the means of compliance for the work undertaken.

If you are unsure of any compliance matters the Board's Helpdesk can point you in the right direction.

**Call 0800 743 262**



## Download it from the website

# Annual Report

If you haven't seen it already - the latest Annual Report is available for viewing on the Board's website.

**Go to: [www.pgdb.co.nz/publications/corporate](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/publications/corporate)**

Let us know if you want a hard copy sent out at [comms@pgdb.co.nz](mailto:comms@pgdb.co.nz)

# You're cutting it fine

## CPD is essential

Like Christmas, the new licensing year is just around the corner.

If you haven't got your CPD completed you won't be able to uplift your 2018/19 NZ Practising Licence in February.

### Do your CPD online

The opportunity to attend a Mico CPD Roadshow has now passed. If you didn't make it to the one in your area you can still complete your CPD online.

Get it organised here: [www.pgdb.co.nz/trade/cpd](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/trade/cpd)

## Feed the app [ It's working ]

More than 210+ notifications received have led to targeted operations in Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch Queenstown and Tauranga. 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](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/app)

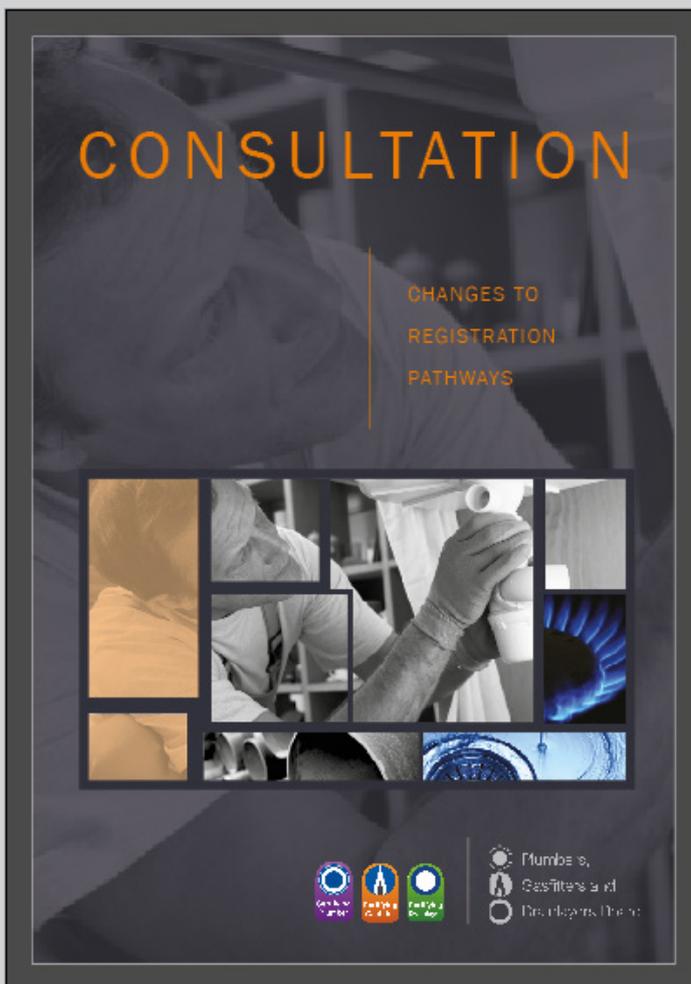
**12,500+**  
R.A.C downloads 



# Proposed changes

## Changes to registration pathway

SUBMIT YOUR FEEDBACK BY 1 DEC 2017



The purpose of this consultation is to seek your feedback on two proposed changes to the pathways to registration set out in the registration and licensing *Gazette* notices.

**The proposed changes are to:**

**A**

Recognise a new trade qualification that will soon be available, the New Zealand Certificate in Plumbing, Gasfitting, or Drainlaying.

**B**

Introduce a new process for overseas qualified practitioners wishing to become registered in New Zealand.

### How to provide your feedback:

Go to [www.pgdb.co.nz/consultation/current](http://www.pgdb.co.nz/consultation/current) to download the proposal. Submissions can either be made on-line at the Board's website or by filling in the form at the back of the proposal.

The New Zealand Business Number has been designed to make it quicker and easier to do business in New Zealand. Over time, the NZBN will create a transactional environment with greater certainty of identity, more reliable information and less duplication.

#### What is it?

- The NZBN is a unique number used to identify a business.
- All businesses in New Zealand can have an NZBN (from big corporates to self-employed plumbers).

#### How does it work?

- An NZBN is linked to the key business information organisations most often asked to share with other businesses and government agencies – such as their trading name, phone number and email address. Securely holding these details in one place will help reduce the cost of repeating information, which will speed up interactions between businesses.

#### What are the benefits?

- By making it easier to share information, the NZBN will offer a range of benefits over time.
- **Time and cost savings:** The NZBN will allow businesses to cut down on manual data entry processes, so transactions such as onboarding new suppliers and customers will be faster and simpler. That means more time to grow your business.
- **Confidence:** Having an NZBN shows that a business is real and tangible. Having access to up-to-date information offers you more certainty about the businesses you work with.
- **Efficiency:** Better procurement processes including tendering and purchaser/supplier relationship management.
- **Streamlining:** Finance transactions will be smoother, as new ways to invoice customers, pay bills and apply for credit will be enabled.

# Transforming the way Kiwis do business

## More business - less work

GO TO [WWW.NZBN.GOV.T.NZ](http://WWW.NZBN.GOV.T.NZ)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Svaq31wINmE>

#### It's the future of business

Government agencies (like Inland Revenue and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment) and businesses are building the NZBN into their systems and processes right now, in areas like finance, procurement, customer relationship management, tenders, reporting and more. If you're in business, your customers or suppliers will soon be asking for your NZBN - so head to [nzbn.govt.nz](http://nzbn.govt.nz) now to get your NZBN. Watch the video to find out how the NZBN works, and how it's transforming the way we do business in New Zealand.

# Acceptable solutions



## Changes have effected the general requirements for sanitary plumbing

### AMMENDMENTS TO AS/3500.2:2015

On 30 June 2017, amendments to AS/NZS 3500.2 were published. These were approved by NZ Standards Board on 10 May 2017.

The specific clauses affected are 4.9.1, 4.9.2, 4.9.3, 5.3, 6.5.2.3, 6.5.2.4, 6.5.2.5, 6.5.2.6, figures 4.9.2, 4.10 and 6.5.2.1.

Many of the changes have affected the general design requirements for sanitary plumbing. Specifically, there has been a move away from the use of sweep junctions (e.g. swept 88° junctions) to connect in combined discharge pipes.

Two areas that will have a noticeable effect on plumbers are with junctions in graded pipes and junctions installed in a vertical plane.

With regards to junctions in graded pipes pre-amendment 6.5.2.3 outlined that "Junctions (whether equal or unequal) shall be either 45° or sweep type" however, post-amendment 6.5.2.3 states "Junctions (whether equal or unequal) shall be 45°."

With regards to junctions installed in a vertical plane pre-amendment 6.5.2.6

outlined that "Sweep and 45° junctions may be installed in the vertical plane for the connection of a single discharge pipe..."

However, post-amendment 6.5.2.6 states "45° junctions shall be installed in the vertical plane for the connection of a single discharge pipe and common discharge pipe."

A noticeable change in drainage systems is in figure 4.10 which shows a typical vertical jump-up from the main drain to graded branches. Pre-amendment this figure displays a sweep 88° junction and post-amendment it displays a 45° junction.

The move to 45° junctions and away from sweep junctions will be an improvement to the system as it improves airflow in the discharge pipes resulting in a lower chance of blockage.

The updated version of 3500.2:2015 can be accessed by authorised plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers through the trade login at [www.pgdb.co.nz](http://www.pgdb.co.nz) by clicking on the Standards New Zealand logo.

**Have questions? Give us a call 0800 743 262**

# Notice-board



MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT  
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI



## 3500 series public comment notification

The 3500 projects for public comment are now listed on the Standards New Zealand website.

**They are showing on the second page of listings here :**

<https://shop.standards.govt.nz/default.htm?action=browseDrafts&mod=drafts&draftTypeId=2&page=2>

## IMPORTING CARAVANS OR MOTORHOMES INTO NZ

### Question of the month

Can importers of caravans or motorhomes sell them without certified or endorsed gas appliances, if they tell the buyers that it needs doing?

ANSWER [ENERGY SAFETY] : The answer is no, they can't leave it to someone else.

Anyone who sells something that isn't certified when it needs to be, may be committing an offence. All gas appliances and installations have to be safe.

Certification and endorsement provide means of demonstrating safety.

#### Regulation 44(3) of the Gas (Safety and Measurement) Regulations 2010 states:

"Every person who supplies or intends to supply an imported gas installation to a retailer or consumer must, before supplying the gas installation, ensure that it complies with the requirements of section 2 of whichever of the following applies: (a) AS/NZS 5601.1; or (b) AS/NZS 5601.2. "

This Regulation applies to anyone who imports a gas installation and supplies it to another person (which includes sale). It doesn't apply to someone who imports an installation for their own use unless or until they subsequently supply it to another person.

The Regulation is met by obtaining verification that the essential requirements in section 2 of AS/NZS 5601.2 have been met. A certificate of verification using the methodology of NZS 5255:2014 safety verification of existing gas installations would do that.

This isn't the only way. For example, if the caravan or motorhome is imported from Australia it is likely to have been constructed to AS/NZS 5601.2 in the first place, and if the importer has the compliance documentation that would also meet Regulation 44 provided the installation is not unsafe.

Regulation 54 applies to appliances in imported installations. They have to be certified or alternatively be endorsed in accordance with regulation 57 (endorsement may replace certification for certain appliances and fittings) before they are offered for sale.

# Support it [ it's working ]

[www.pgdb.co.nz/trade](http://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
- Journey



Plumber

Gasfitter

Drainlayer

Details of the work that is required to carry out are available at [www.pgdb.co.nz](http://www.pgdb.co.nz)

SHOW THE CARD  
it's your most important tool



Plumber

Gasfitter

Drainlayer

SORT THE PROS  
FROM THE CONS

Show your card

Check it's legal



Jonathan Smith  
• Certifying Plumber  
• Tradesman Gasfitter  
• Journeyman Drainlayer

Details of the work that is required to carry out are available at [www.pgdb.co.nz](http://www.pgdb.co.nz)

### ASK TO SEE THEIR CARD

Find out more at [www.pgdb.co.nz](http://www.pgdb.co.nz)

New Zealand homes have a complex network of pipes and fittings that can have 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.

KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DIY  
AND WHEN YOU NEED A PRO



Plumber

Gasfitter

Drainlayer

SORT THE PROS  
FROM THE CONS

Ask to see their card

NZ PRACTISING  
LICENCE

12345

001-311-1111

Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board

Check it's legal at [pgdb.co.nz](http://pgdb.co.nz)

email [comms@pgdb.co.nz](mailto:comms@pgdb.co.nz) for promotional material