

Construction

03.01.01

Workplace health and safety regulations >

This information bulletin outlines the requirements of the [Workplace Health and Safety Regulations](#), as they relate to the construction industry. The regulations incorporate National and Australian Standards.

Responsibilities

All people on a construction work-site have responsibilities for safety, including employers and occupiers (both as main contractors and sub-contractors), self employed persons and workers. The responsibility extends to those areas and activities over which the person has some control. If more than one person has a responsibility in relation to a certain area or activity, then under the Workplace Health and Safety Regulations, all of those people must ensure that safety is maintained and not leave it to another person.

Regulations 4 to 14 refer to these responsibilities and follow on from the general duties of care in the *Workplace Health and Safety Act*, Part 5 – Statutory duties of care.

Scaffolding

Scaffolding must comply with [AS 1576.1](#) Scaffolding – General Requirements. Scaffold planks must comply with [AS 1577](#) Scaffold Planks. These requirements can be found in Regulation 133.

Electrical

Electrical installations on construction sites must comply with [AS 3012](#) Electrical Installations – Construction and Demolition Sites. This standard picks up the many individual regulations that previously applied.

In addition, all hand held and portable power tools must be connected through a Residual Current Device (RCD) or Earth Leakage Protection at all times. Regulations 62 to 65 refer to electrical safety. NT WorkSafe Information Bulletin 05.02.01 – Electrical Safety – Construction Work provides further information.

Fencing of construction work

Construction work must be appropriately fenced to ensure the safety of workers and the public with barricades, hoardings and gantries as required. Further details can be found in NT WorkSafe Information Bulletin [03.01.05](#) Construction – Erection of Fencing.

putting safety first >



Licences

A person is required to hold a licence if carrying out any of the following categories of occupations:

Pressure Equipment Operation

- Boiler
- Turbine
- Reciprocating Steam Engine

Industrial Truck Operation

- Forklift truck

Scaffolding

- Scaffolding (basic, intermediate, advanced)

Rigging

- Dogging
- Rigging (basic, intermediate, advanced)

Asbestos removal

- Asbestos removalist

Crane and Hoist Operation

- Tower crane
- Derrick crane
- Portal boom crane
- Bridge and gantry crane
- Vehicle loading crane
- Non-slewing mobile crane
- Slewing mobile crane
- Elevating work platform
- Hoist (cantilever platform)
- Hoist (personnel and materials)
- Concrete placing boom

Further details on licences can be found in Regulations 15 to 25 and in Schedule 3 of the Regulations.

Notification of work

The types of work requiring notification to NT WorkSafe are the following:

- excavation work requiring shoring – under regulation 145 (generally that greater than 1.5 metres);
- demolition of a building or structure using explosives;
- demolition of a building or structure of a height greater than 6 metres;
- removal of asbestos or a substance containing asbestos that is required to be performed by a person who is the holder of an Asbestos Removalist's licence;
- work involving the use of suspended scaffolding;
- erection of a public stand from scaffold components.

At least seven days notice is required to be given to NT WorkSafe before the commencement of the work using Form FM019 – [Notification of work](#).

Other

The Workplace Health and Safety Regulations focus on a comprehensive approach to safety management, the responsibility for which rests with the employer. The objective is to create a safe workplace free from risk, and NT WorkSafe publication Safety Management – A Guide helps by describing the process. This publication is available on the NT WorkSafe web site or by contacting NT WorkSafe.

This bulletin is for guidance and only addresses some of the requirements for construction sites. There are many other areas that have not been covered in this information bulletin that pertain to safety requirements of all workplaces.

Further information

Copies of the legislation can be purchased from the Northern Territory Government Printing Office.

A range of information bulletins and links to codes of practice on related topics are available on the NT WorkSafe website.

[Australian Standards](#) are available from the Territory Construction Association, phone 8922 9666. Australian Standards can be viewed online by visiting the Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, phone 8999 7177.

NT WorkSafe >

GPO Box 1722

Darwin NT 0801

Telephone: 1800 019 115
Facsimile: (08) 8999 5141
Email: ntworksafe@nt.gov.au
Website: www.worksafe.nt.gov.au