

Construction

CONTENTS

- Health and safety alerts
- Information bulletins
- National Licensing System
- Changes to NT Workplace Health and Safety Legislation
- Scaffolding compliance campaign
- Construction induction card
- Formation of Sub Committees to Workplace Health and Safety Advisory Council (WHSAC)
- Safe Work Australia Week
- Statistical data

Health and safety alerts | Current Northern Territory and national Health and [Safety Alerts](#).

Information bulletins | The following are the latest Information Bulletins available for the construction industry: **03.03 Construction Induction Training**

[03.03.01 Induction for Construction Work Training](#)

[03.03.02 Mutual Recognition of interstate induction cards](#)

[BACK TO CONTENTS 03.03.03 Information for Registered Training Organisations](#)

National Licensing System | The Northern Territory has signed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with other jurisdictions agreeing to begin the implementation process for the National Licensing System (NLS) which is scheduled to commence on 1 July 2012.

The agreement was signed at the Council of Australian Governments on 30 April 2009 in recognition that Australia's overlapping and inconsistent regulations regarding licensing, impeded productivity growth.

The initial occupational areas covered by the NLS are:

- refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics
- building and building related occupations
- electrical
- land transport (passenger vehicle drivers and dangerous goods only)
- maritime
- plumbing and gasfitting, and
- property agents.

Draft legislation is currently being developed and is expected to be released for public comment in late 2009.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#) | More information can be found on the [NLS](#) website.

Changes to NT Workplace Health and Safety Legislation

The Northern Territory along with other jurisdictions is currently working with Safe Work Australia to harmonise occupation health and safety (OHS) legislation across Australia.

The Council of Australia Governments formally committed to the harmonisation of OHS legislation in July 2008, by signing an Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in OHS.

The agreement requires each state and territory to pass their own laws that mirror the model OHS laws and adopt them by December 2011.

The model OHS laws have been drafted and will soon be released in late September for public comment.

NT WorkSafe will hold a number of information sessions across the Territory to provide information on the changes to current OHS laws and the implementation. Information sessions will be held in the following regions.

Alice Springs

Thursday 1 October – 12.30pm to 1.30pm – Crowne Plaza
Wednesday 28 October – 5.30pm to 6.30pm – Diplomat Motel

Darwin

Thursday 8 October – 3.30pm to 4.30pm – Holiday Inn Esplanade

Katherine

Thursday 1 October – 1.00pm to 2.00pm – Knotts Crossing Resort
Thursday 22 October – 5.30pm to 6.30pm – Knotts Crossing Resort

Nhulunbuy

Tuesday 13 October – 12.30pm to 1.30pm – The Arnhem Club
– 3.30pm to 4.30pm – The Arnhem Club
– 5.30pm to 6.30pm – The Arnhem Club

Tennant Creek

Thursday 8 October – 5.00pm to 6.00pm – Blue Stone Motor Inn

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

Scaffolding compliance campaign

Site/project managers are advised that NT WorkSafe is currently conducting a scaffolding intervention campaign for the construction industry. The campaign is part of a national intervention campaign currently underway in all states and territories, and in New Zealand.

NT Workplace Safety Officers will be visiting construction sites across the Territory to provide advice and ensure that erected scaffolding meet Australian Standards, AS 1576.

The scaffolding compliance campaign will be conducted in two phases and will conclude in mid 2010.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

Construction induction card

The Northern Territory along with other jurisdictions has agreed to adopt a code of practice for induction for construction work.

The [Northern Territory Code of Practice for Induction for Construction Work](#) (the Code) will come into effect on 31 October 2009.

The adoption of the Code will require all new workers to complete general safety induction training before commencing work in the industry. Employers must ensure that existing workers have completed induction training by September 2010 or, if the worker has been in the industry less than three months, before January 2010.

A new series of Information Bulletins [03.03 Construction Induction Training](#) has been developed by NT WorkSafe.

As part of [Safe Work Australia Week](#) NT WorkSafe will hold Tradies Sessions at Bunnings Darwin and Palmerston, and Mitre 10 Alice Springs where you can find out more about the NT construction induction cards.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

Formation of Sub Committees to Workplace Health and Safety Advisory Council (WHSAC)

The Northern Territory Workplace Health and Safety Advisory Council was formed on 31 December 2008. Under section 27 of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act*, the council has the power to form subcommittees to assist the council to carry out its functions under the Act. A decision was made to form industry based subcommittees.

The construction subcommittee has been formed by the council. The subcommittee is chaired by a member of the advisory council and comprises of representatives from the following organisations:

- Brolga Homes
- New Abode
- Australian Manufacturing Workers Union
- Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union
- Australian Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers' Union
- NT WorkSafe
- Master Builders NT
- Steelcon
- Sitzler

The duties of sub committee are:

- provide advice to the council on implementation and application of the Act in particular industry sectors
- examine specific issues referred by the council, and
- provide a forum for information exchange and networking opportunities for key stakeholders to work with the Regulator on OHS issues in specific industry sectors.

For more information contact the WHSAC sub committee secretariat on 8999 5098.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

Safe Work Australia Week

25 to 31 October 2009 is [Safe Work Australia](#) Week.

In 2008/09 there were over 3300 claims for workplace injuries and six work-related fatalities in the Northern Territory.

All Territorians, whether you're an employer or a worker, are encouraged to get involved and focus on health and safety in the workplace.

Workplace safety is everyone's business.

NT WorkSafe has created a Safe Work Australia Week navigation button on the Home Page of the website www.worksafe.nt.gov.au to keep you informed of activities during the campaign.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)

Statistical data

A range of statistical data has been collated by Safe Work Australia and NT WorkSafe in order to identify poor performing industries and high risk activities to assist in developing targeted industry programs.

Data is also collected and reviewed by NT WorkSafe to improve programs that facilitate Territory workers being covered by equitable and practical workers compensation scheme allowing them to return to suitable work as soon as possible.

To access the data, follow the [Statistics](#) link on the NT WorkSafe website.

[BACK TO CONTENTS](#)