

## GUIDANCE NOTE

### **Amended Advice about Insurance Requirements under the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005***

The purpose of this notice is to assist electrical contractors to comply with their legislative requirements.

This document is not to be taken as an expression of the law. It should be read in conjunction with the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005* (the Act), the *Occupational Licensing (Electrical Work) Regulations 2008* (the Regulations) and any other relevant legislation, in particular the Occupational Licensing General Insurance Notice 2008 ("the Insurance Notice"). Copies of the legislation can be purchased from Print Applied Technology Pty Ltd by calling 1800 030 940, or are available on the internet at [www.wst.tas.gov.au/ola](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/ola)

#### **Background**

When drafting the Occupational Licensing General Insurance Notice 2008 ("the Insurance Notice"), Workplace Standards Tasmania (WST) was advised by various Insurers that suitable policies of insurance were available.

When the *Occupational Licensing Act 2005* and the *Occupational Licensing (Electrical Work) Regulations 2008* commenced on 19 January 2009 - due to changed circumstances in other jurisdictions - insurers were, or were about to, withdraw from offering policies of insurance that covered a defective work component (or revising upwards their premium levels).

Electrical contractors were advised by WST at that time that holders of electrical contractor's licences who could provide evidence that the form of insurance held was the closest available to the Insurance Notice would be viewed as meeting, so far as was reasonably practicable, the intent of the legislative requirements.

#### **Current Situation**

WST has held further discussions with insurers. One underwriter is currently offering insurance that appears to be in accordance with the Occupational Licensing General Insurance Notice 2008 and, as far as WST is aware, one other underwriter is currently developing a product for Tasmanian electrical contractors. When WST receives advice that a suitable product is available from the alternative insurer concerned, notification will be posted on this website.

There is an obligation to have insurance in accordance with the Insurance Notice. This insurance ought to be in place as soon as possible and should be in place by the time the contractor licence is renewed.

A list of insurers, brokers and insurance representatives who have advised WST that their product complies with the Tasmanian General Insurance Notice is on the WST website at [www.wst.tas.gov.au/ola](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/ola)

#### **Insurance for Gratuitous Work**

With respect to gratuitous work, you are required to hold insurance unless the person for whom the work is done is otherwise covered.

John Hammersley  
**Acting Administrator of Occupational Licensing**

26 May 2009