

# Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board



**NEWSLETTER NO: 14 — March 2015**

## Plumbers & Drainers Licensing Board Membership

A new industry member has been appointed to the Board, which now consists of:

Chairman	Richard McElwee, ATL
Deputy Chair	Travis Miezis, ATL
Members	Armando Padovan, DLP
	Rod Cryer, Dept of Business
	Justin Busse, RTO

## Use of licence number in advertising material

Although it is not a legal requirement, the Board encourages all Advanced Tradesmen to include their licence number in advertising material.

This will help members of the public by assuring them that their tradesman is appropriately licensed.

## Installation of Blue Line Pipe

Pipes must be installed in accordance with Australian Standard ASNZ:3500:

### Section 1.5.12 Bedding and Backfill

If pipes are installed too close to each other, they may rub, causing leaks to develop. If they are installed too close to other services (eg gas) they may rub and cause leaks to develop in the gas pipe.

### Section 5. 5.3 Proximity to other services

If you use rubble to fill the hole, when the pipes move they will rub against the rubble, again causing leaks.

Don't forget that when you sign off work, under the *Building Act* you are certifying that the work was correctly completed. Regardless of who actually did the work, if there are any problems it will be your job to fix it at your own cost. Any action taken through the Building Practitioners Board will be taken against you, not the person who did the work.

## HOW TO LODGE AN APPLICATION

Application forms and current application fees can be found on the forms page of the Board's website:  
[www.nt.gov.au/plumberslicensing](http://www.nt.gov.au/plumberslicensing)

Applications may be lodged by email, mail, or in person at the addresses shown on the form. Only complete applications will be considered, ie ones which include all required information and fee. For more information visit the Board's website or contact the Registrar on 08-8936 4083.



**Do you have a trades assistant who trained as a plumber overseas?**

If your Irish or English (or any other nationality) trades assistant trained as a plumber outside Australia and wants to work as a plumber in the NT, he needs to be registered. He should apply to the Board, providing all his paperwork (trade papers, references, OTSR, etc).

The Board will assess the papers and, if satisfied, issue him with a conditional Journeyman registration for twelve months. During that time, he will need to complete a **Certificate III** with a **Registered Training Organisation in the NT** (currently Charles Darwin Uni or the Gordon Institute of TAFE). The RTO will assess his training/experience and provide gap training to reach the Cert III standard.

He will also need to be **employed and supervised by an Advanced Tradesman** licence holder. At the end of twelve months, he can apply for full Journeyman registration, with a Cert III and a statutory declaration from an Advanced Tradesman.

Some people have travelled interstate to complete a two-week migrant gap training course. You should think carefully before taking this step. The qualification you get **may** be equivalent to a Certificate III, but it may not be. If you hold a **conditional** registration, you must complete your Certificate III at a **Northern Territory based RTO**.

Course fees plus the cost of airfares, accommodation and two weeks without working, may be more than the cost of doing a Cert III in the NT over the course of a year, while working. Even with this qualification, the applicant will only get a conditional, non-transferable registration and will still be required to obtain work experience in the NT. The time spent on attending a course interstate will not contribute to the 12 months required work experience.

Visit the Board's website and read the policy for more information.

**Use of Offset Pan Collars**

The plumbing industry has raised concerns involving the use of offset pan collars greater than 20mm.

Offsets greater than 20mm are causing the pans to block on a regular basis and also loss of water seal, allowing sewer gases to escape into the house.

All care should be taken with the initial set out of any sanitary drains to minimise the need to use an offset pan collar greater than 20 mm.

**S.40 Certificates**

Revised Section 40 certificates have been uploaded to the BAS website.

These make it clearer that, if you are signing on behalf of a company, you must provide both the company name and registration number and your own name and individual registration number.

This includes the S.40 Plumbing & Drainage Design Certificate.

New certificates will be printed, but you may continue to use the existing certificates if you have them.