

OH&S Training for the Construction Industry

Mutual recognition of construction induction training

Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland have fully recognised each other's construction industry basic OHS induction training schemes.

The agreement, which took effect on 1 January 2007, means that Victorian "red cards" are now recognised under NSW and Queensland OHS laws as equivalent to the cards issued under those states' schemes. It also reinforces Victorian recognition of the NSW and Queensland induction schemes.

With the three eastern states accounting for around 80% of Australia's construction work, this is an important step forward in reducing red tape and harmonising OHS requirements.

WorkSafe Victoria's Construction & Utilities Director, Geoff Thomas, welcomed the historic agreement.

"It is particularly good news for the construction industry in the border areas along the Murray River. It has also removed a barrier for Victorian construction workers and contractors seeking to work on NSW and Queensland projects," Mr Thomas said.

- For further information on the agreement from WorkCover New South Wales:

http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/WorkplaceTraining/ConstructionInduction/mutual_recognition_construction_induction_training.htm

- For further information on the agreement from Workplace Health & Safety Queensland:

<http://www.dir.qld.gov.au/publications/media/2006/december/index.htm>