



New BESS Unit Standard

Just one Crane Association member has met the requirements to train and assess the new Unit Standard 23436 under Bridge Engineering - Self Supervision

Our sole qualified member, C.I.T.A. Training, based in Alexandra, is also one of only two assessors in the entire South Island to offer the course.

Unlike the previous BESS Certification the new programme requires refresher training every five years to keep the Unit Standard up to date and all staff who hold the current BESS qualification will need to pass the new standard in the next 2 years.

Danny Stephen from C.I.T.A. Training says "...along with the traditional crane training that the company is known for, there has been additional pressure from operators to provide a 'complete package' when it comes to training so this is why we have diversified into the BESS Unit Standard and also Transit approved traffic management training."

Danny can be contacted by email at cita@xnet.co.nz or by phone on 027 227-6716.

See page 2 for more details.



Just one member
qualifies...

2009 Conference

All arrangements are almost completed for the 2009 conference with just the contracts to be signed.

Please read and respond to the timelines shown in the papers that you will receive shortly because if you do not register by the dates shown you will not be able to take advantage of the reduced prices and there will be no exceptions – regardless of the pleas that I know will be made.

From the Chief Executive

It's been a frantic few weeks for me with a week's leave after our conference and attendance across the Tasman at the Australian conference following that.

I regret that all crane issues may not have seemed to have been dealt with at their usual speed. There's been another complicating factor. Many of you may not be aware but part of my job for the ITO involves my working under delegated authority to the Department of Labour to issue Certificates of Competency for scaffolders.

All of the certificates issued in 2004 expire in October 2008 and because they all fall due together this involves a lot of work to reissue them.

Hopefully things will slow down in mid-October.

From the President

I have conferences on the mind at present, having just returned from the Australian conference, which was a new experience for me, and we've almost completed the programme for our own conference in July 2009.

Australian hotels operate differently from our New Zealand ones so please read the material from the Association office, due in the next week or so, carefully. The main points are that YOU will have to book (and pay a deposit) for your own accommodation – we have a block allocation to get the best rate and we've introduced an early bird registration incentive. If you want to go as part of the Crane Association party for dinner at Dracula's you'll need to book and pay our office by the date shown. We can't make exceptions: we aren't bankrolling the conference.

*Malcolm McWhannell,
President*

Newsletter of the

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Bridge Engineering Self Supervision (BESS)

Setting a New Standard

A new system has begun for drivers wanting to gain the BESS registration for overweight loads over bridges.

Each new or existing driver will need to gain Unit Standard (23436) as part of the process. All current holders have around 2 years to gain the Unit Standard, and will remain current until that time.

In addition, in the near future the NZ Transport Agency will issue a registration card to certify that you are currently BESS registered.

Steps for New BESS Drivers

- 1 The Driver applies through the Overweight Permit Officers at the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Regional Offices for registration (formerly Transit New Zealand).
- 2 NZTA processes your application and runs the background check required on the driver and company (if required).
- 3 The driver undergoes training and assessment against unit standard 23436 (BESS). Contact Tranzqual on 0800 4Quals (0800 478257) or visit their website for details of assessors available in your area.
- 4 Once the driver has been awarded the unit standard, your company can inform NZTA and the driver can be issued with provisional BESS registration (for six months).
- 5 If no breaches occur during the six months, full registration can be awarded (for five years).

Steps for Current BESS Registered Drivers

- 1 The driver undergoes training and assessment against unit standard 23436 (BESS). Contact Tranzqual on 0800 4Quals (0800 478257) or visit their website for details of assessors available in your area.
- 2 Once the driver has been awarded the unit standard, your company informs NZTA and your driver can be reissued with full registration for five years.

In order to gain the Unit Standard, candidates will need to register with NZQA, and they should also consider whether they wish to undertake any other Unit Standard-based training and assessment.

Please talk with an assessor or contact one of the Tranzqual Training Advisors in your area for further info about this.

www.tranzqual.org.nz/contact-us

Land Transport Changes Rules

Despite little response when we sought members' views on changes to some Land Transport Rules, we had sufficient data to make submissions on:

- Drivers licensing – remove requirement for operators to hold a "w" endorsement to drive an all terrain crane
- Logbooks – rule to include exemption for crane operators rather than companies having to apply.

Making submissions - our chance to influence policy.

Codes of Practice

The Code of Practice for Cranes is in its final stages of amendment and council would like to record thanks to the review committee and in particular the Chairman (John Carter) and the willingness of the Department of Labour through the efforts of Andrew Kear to ensure that what comes out for comment before the Minister signs it off is the best that we can come up with.



For more detailed information on the BESS registration process, contact the New Zealand Heavy Haulage Association on 04 472 0366 or the Overweight Permit Issuing Officer at the New Zealand Transport Agency:

Auckland Region [09] 368 2000
Hamilton Region [07] 957 1610
Napier Region [06] 835 1750
Wanganui Region [06] 349 6520

Wellington Region [04] 381 6700
Christchurch Region [03] 366 4455
Dunedin Region [03] 477 8537