

ARTC is moving to the Rail Industry Worker Card

As of 1st December almost 8000 rail safety worker cards have been issued to ARTC contractors, with a further 4000 applications in process. Possession of the rail safety worker card, copied below, is mandatory for all contractors completing rail safety work for ARTC.



During 2012 ARTC has been working with other rail operators to create a card that can be recognised across the rail industry. This has led to the rail industry worker program, which is owned and endorsed by the Australasian Railway Association (ARA) to provide a single national competence management system for every person working in rail.

From January 2013 ARTC will commence issuing the new rail industry worker card to contractors. The card looks like this:



The new card is different to the rail safety worker card in that it is badged with the ARA logo, is a different colour, and contains a barcode in the bottom right hand corner. The barcode can be scanned by any smart phone with the downloadable application, allowing a contractor's competencies to be viewed immediately.

Contractors should note that even though a new card is being introduced, existing rail safety worker cards will continue to be valid, and contractors will not have to replace them with the new card. Further information on the rail industry worker card will be released by ARTC in early 2013.

Future Enquiries on ARTC's Worker Competence Project

ARTC has developed information and procedures to assist contractors to determine whether they require rail industry worker cards.

Information that is most commonly required by contractors is summarised in the worker competence Business Rules Handbook that can be found on the ARTC website at <http://www.artc.com.au/library/HR08-003.pdf>. It consists of the questions and answers most commonly asked by contractors seeking access to the rail corridor or completing rail safety work. Contractors are encouraged to refer to this document before seeking advice about worker competence and rail industry worker cards.

Information on the rail industry worker program is also available on the Australasian Railway Association website http://www.ara.net.au/Rail_Industry_Worker_program.

From January 2013 contractors are to refer to the above websites to obtain further information on rail industry worker cards. If your enquiry is relating to the work role you are completing for ARTC please contact the relevant ARTC manager.

Information concerning the supply and distribution of rail industry worker cards will continue to be managed in 2013 by Onsite Track Easy. If required, contractors can find information at the website www.railindustryworker.com.au that explains the online process of obtaining the rail industry worker card. If required, specific questions can be directed to Onsite at 1300 777 245.