



# Media Release - SafeWork SA

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Monday 12 April 2010

## METRO INFORMATION SESSIONS ON LICENSING HIGH RISK WORK

**A series of information sessions will run in the Greater Adelaide Area from today to explain licensing changes that will affect a number of industries in South Australia later this year.**

In particular, it will affect those who:

- operate a forklift, crane, hoist, elevating work platform or pressure equipment.
- perform scaffolding, dogging or rigging work.

SafeWork SA is providing detailed information prior to the commencement of the new licensing system in South Australia, with sessions in **Hindmarsh, Old Reynella, Mawson Lakes, Victor Harbor, Mt. Barker** and **Evanston Park** from the 12th of April to the 3rd of May.

The changes are aimed at making safer those workplaces where high risk work is performed, and will also make the training, assessment and licensing of high risk work consistent across Australia.

Most Australian states have now either partly or fully implemented the National Standard for Licensing Persons Performing High Risk Work 2006 (new National Standard). South Australia will begin issuing new High Risk Work Licences later this year subject to Government approval.

The changes involve the following:

- A new type of licence for those who perform high risk work – a small plastic card with photo identification, similar to a driver's licence that will be consistent and valid across Australia.
- The High Risk Work Licence, unlike the present Certificate of Competency or old style 'ticket', will require renewal *every five years* subject to evidence of skills and competencies being maintained.
- A person must be aged 18 years or older to obtain a new national licence.
- The operation of forklifts and order-picking forklifts will be defined as high risk work – existing 'ticket' holders will be able to convert valid 'tickets' to the new licence.
- A new class of high risk work will be defined – the operation of a Self-erecting Tower Crane.
- Registered Assessors will need to work for, or be affiliated with, a Registered Training Organisation.

SafeWork SA Executive Director, Michele Patterson says the strong interest already shown in the sessions currently scheduled is an encouraging sign that industries and workers are keen to understand the new system and benefit from its introduction.

Further information and bookings are available via the SafeWork SA website: [www.safework.sa.gov.au](http://www.safework.sa.gov.au) or by calling 8303 9991.