



National Plumbing Regulators Forum
'Driving Plumbing Excellence'

NPRF Report Card

National Plumbing Regulator's Forum Conference
Adelaide

12 November 2008

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Emerging themes ...

- Consumer and industry confidence
- Regulatory issues
- Education, training and licensing
- Environmental and sustainability outcomes



Consumer and Industry confidence ...

Identified issues:

- Cohesive, united plumbing industry
- Adequately funded and resourced body
- Maintaining industry voice in the transition from ANZRA into NPRF
- Ensuring compliance and consistent application of plumbing regulation
- Competence based licence renewal
 - Maintaining standards of plumbing
 - Adapting to change
- Upfront and inclusive consultation in regulatory development processes
- Acknowledging industry focus on public health, safety and the environment



Agreed actions ...

- Development of IGA with industry consultation.
- Plumbing Codes Board includes independent representation
- Funding from state and federal government
- National uniformity in regulations and licensing
- Competence based licence renewal fully supported
- NPRF review current overseas trade skills assessment process (Immigration Department)



Regulatory Issues ...

Identified issues:

- Industry engagement – seat at table and consultation with regulators
- Compliance and enforcement across jurisdictions – no national consistency
- Plumbing Code of Australia – might be a national code – not called up yet by states and territories
- WaterMark – certification process
- WELS – excellent idea however
 - Lacks substance
 - Fails marketplace



Agreed actions ...

- Industry engagement with Regulators
- National consistency and compliance in plumbing regulations
- Public awareness campaign
- WaterMark Certification process
- Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme



Education, Training and Licensing ...

Identified issues:

- Harmonisation of licensing
 - National licence
 - Mutual recognition
- Consistency in training delivery
 - Best practice
 - 4-5 streams of training package
 - hours of training
 - recognition – RPL and MR
- Continual improvement – aim of increasing capacity within industry
- Overseas assessment
- Consultation



Agreed actions ...

- What does industry accept?
 - Separate licensing regime out of training outcomes
 - Review of mapping documents from all qualifications to new
 - Regulators need to address the variance in training hours to align to a common training outcome
 - Why do we focus on hours and not completion of competency?
 - What is the regulator involvement in AQTF 2007?
 - Industry wants 5 streams
 - NSW RPL Project needs to be completed



Our commitment going forward ...

Moving forward as one innovative, integrated body through a focus on Community, Industry, Innovation and Collaboration to deliver improved governance, technical, educational and licensing standards for the plumbing trade sector.

To pro-actively engage industry and provide effective channels for communication and appropriate consultation with stakeholders.

The NPRF will ensure that wherever possible plumbing as a distinct industry is represented in decision-making on national regulatory issues that will impact on the plumbing industry.