

COAG MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF OCCUPATIONS

A message from the Australian Government.

On 22 February 2007 a ministerial declaration, made under Section 32 of the *Mutual Recognition Act 1992* (the Act), came into effect. The declaration was signed by Premiers and Chief Ministers on 9 February 2007 and identifies a range of equivalent occupations across states and territories. It covers licences issued to electrical workers, plumbers, gas-fitters, carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, builders, refrigeration and air-conditioning mechanics and auto-gas fitters. It also covers licences issued to perform some electrical work on a restricted basis through the issuing of restricted electrical licences.

Section 39(2) of the Act places a requirement on registration authorities. It states that:

“It is the duty of each registration authority to prepare and make available guidelines and information regarding the operation of this Part in relation to the occupations for which the authority is responsible.”

The new website, www.licencerecognition.gov.au, provides a direct link to the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments, the authoritative legislative source for ministerial declarations. It also allows a user to conduct a database search to identify an equivalent licence.

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