

# Newsletter



ACT BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

**TRAINING FUND  
AUTHORITY**

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**L-R, Heightsafe Directors, Jon McQuade, Rod Hart and Business Administrator Laura Filmer**

## Profile - Heightsafe Australia Pty Ltd



Heightsafe was established in Canberra in December 2004 and commenced delivery of training programs in January 2005.

Mr Rod Hart, Director of Heightsafe, said “before the company commenced delivery of training, our trainers had to be competent in all aspects of training techniques and best practice. To achieve this, staff including the three directors, undertook accredited training in the UK in all areas of height safety. The training was then tailored to comply with Australian standards and regulations.”

“The investment in training it’s staff has enabled the company to be at the forefront in providing training in a diverse range of height safety programs including; fall prevention, tower rescue, pole rescue, ladder rescue, confined space, manual handling, electrical awareness and low voltage board rescue. Heightsafe also provides training in risk assessment for a variety of building sites, buildings, structures and systems installations.”

“Since training commenced, participants have acknowledged the importance and value of undertaking Fall Prevention training in the building and construction industry as an essential part of OH&S.

Heightsafe’s flexible training in all aspects of height safety provides a holistic solution for many businesses. Heightsafe has two training facilities located at Mitchell and Fairbairn and depending upon facilities, can provide training in the workplace.”

“To date, 1350 people have undertaken Fall Prevention training in the ACT and region and there has been a steady increase in training places in other programs. Due to expansion of its training programs and demand by industry, the company is considering employing additional trainers.”

“I am confident the training provided by Heightsafe and the assistance and training subsidies provided by the Training Fund Authority, has contributed to improving the awareness and access of OH&S in the ACT, particularly Fall Prevention which has created a safer working environment, Mr Hart said.”

ACT building and construction workers attending Heightsafe training programs may be eligible to receive up to 80% of the training costs from the Training Fund Authority.

For further information, contact Rod Hart ☎ 6163 6677 email [rod.hart@heightsafe.com.au](mailto:rod.hart@heightsafe.com.au) or Ray Stowers at the Training Fund Authority.



**Ian Mertin, Delnas Metal Roofing, receiving instruction from Rod Hart at Heightsafe’s training facility at Fairbairn**

## National Apprentices and Trainees March quarter 2006, Summary

# AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIPS

### As of March 2006:

- There were 403,600 apprentices and trainees, down 0.1% from the previous year
- There were 158,500 'traditional apprentices', up 10% from the previous year

### In the year ending March 2006, compared to the year ending 31 March 2005:

- Commencements increased by 5% to 271,100
- Completions rose by 6% to 142,600
- Cancellations and withdrawals increased by 6% to 133,100

### New apprentices and trainees commencing were predominantly:

- Aged 19 and under (110,800 or 41%)
- Male (159,400 or 59%)

### There was considerable variation in growth in commencements:

**Australian Capital Territory (+8%)**, Western Australia (+7%), New South Wales (+7%), Queensland (+5%), Victoria (+5%), South Australia (+2%), Tasmania (-4%) and Northern Territory (-7%)

Source: National Centre for Vocational Education Research



## Health and Safety Month - "Opt for Safety in October"

An average of 330 Australians die from workplace injury and significantly more from work-related diseases every year.

There are also 120,000 Australians injured badly enough in the workplace each year to lose a week or more of work and a further 20,000 workers are compensated for work-related disease.

The Australian Safety and Compensation Council is encouraging workplaces to think about these statistics and look at how they can contribute to ensuring safe workplaces for everyone. Safe Work Australia week, 22-28 October aims to promote OHS in Australian workplaces all over Australia.

For free products and suggestions on how you can make safety improvements in your organisation during the week or for further information on the week, visit [www.ascc.gov.au](http://www.ascc.gov.au), email [info@ascc.gov.au](mailto:info@ascc.gov.au) or call 1800 647 107.



Source: ACT WorkCover

## Record number of training places

During financial year 2005-06, the Training Fund Authority provided funding for a record number of training places (5251) under its Existing Worker and Professional Development program. The following chart shows the sector and the number of training places undertaken:

Sector	Number of training places
OH&S	4069
General Construction	519
Finance, Business and Management	370
Electrotechnology	293

### Examples of training courses funded included:

- Induction to OH&S
- Senior First Aid (level II)
- Estimating Software Program
- Teledata Basic Cabling Licence
- Water Wise
- Confined Space
- Restricted Electrical Licence
- Contract Administration
- Modules from Certificate IV in Building
- Testing & Tagging of Electrical Equipment
- Wet Area Waterproofing
- Computerised Accounting

## Improve your skills and professional development with the following courses.

- Wet Area Waterproofing
- Confined Space Training
- Traffic Control Management
- Introduction to OH&S
- Senior First Aid (level 2)
- OH&S Risk Management Training
- OH&S Representatives Training
- Fall Prevention
- Waterwise Course
- Testing and tagging of electrical equipment
- Open Cable Registration
- Optical Fibre Cabling
- Business Administration and Management
- Computerised Accounting

The above courses are examples of courses for which the Training Fund Authority may reimburse up to 80% of the training Cost (conditions Apply).

For further Information please call: **Ray Stowers**  
Senior Industry Liaison Officer  
on 6262 5630 or  
email: [rstowers@trainingfund.com.au](mailto:rstowers@trainingfund.com.au)

[trainingfund.com.au](http://trainingfund.com.au)

ACT Building & Construction Industry Training Fund Authority  
Suite 6, National Associations Centre  
71 Constitution Avenue  
CAMPBELL ACT 2612  
[www.trainingfund.com.au](http://www.trainingfund.com.au)

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