



Celebrating 20 Years!

Labourco

NEWS

May 2006

Welcome to our May edition of **Labourco NEWS!**

As the end of the financial year draws close Labourco is being kept busy with an array of industry developments throughout New South Wales.

In Newcastle the buzz has been the short listing of United Group and Downer EDI Reliance Rail for the building of 72 new eight carriage double decker trains for Railcorp. As one of the main suppliers of casual labour in the Newcastle region, and in particular to United Group, we are keen to talk with experienced trades people.

The Upper Hunter has been met with the announcement of the imminent closure of Dartbrook mine with mining operations to be phased out by October 2006. With the labour market so tight in the mining industry at present it is hoped that these underground miners will find alternative employment.

On the South Coast BlueScope Steel has welcomed the announcement by the NSW Government of a planning approval for two important potential investments, the Blast Furnace Reline Project and the Cold Mill Upgrade Project, under consideration by the Blue Scope Steel for its Port Kembla Steelworks.

Most notably the recent Industrial Relations changes have brought uncertainty to many employees. Here at Labourco we are committed to maintaining the ethical value of "equal pay for equal work". Labourco endeavours to adhere to relevant Awards and Certified Agreements and as a Not for Profit organisation surplus funds generated go towards providing training, and additional qualifications for our employees. We have been doing this successfully now for the past twenty (20) years!



Introducing Michelle Cleary from Labourco Upper Hunter

Michelle Cleary

Michelle has been employed with Labourco for the past seven (7) years. Initially employed to coordinate the office activities Michelle stepped into the role of Sales and Safety Representative twelve (12) months ago.

The full variety of tasks, including sourcing and placing people into jobs, keeps Michelle busy in the Upper Hunter. She finds job satisfaction in helping to change people's lives by providing people with job opportunities in the Upper Hunter that they may not otherwise have had.

When questioned about the changes that Michelle has seen during her time in labour hire/recruitment Michelle says that she had noticed an interesting trend..... She has been finding that the people she was placing into work in the late 1990's are now running their own businesses and source their labour requirements through Labourco. This is a result of the good relationship that developed when they were a Labourco employee, and has continued to exist with Labourco seven (7) years later!

Rolling with the changes.....

Lyn Baker –Senior Payroll Officer, Head Office

Retired recently following many years of service to the Labour Co-operative. We thank Lyn for her commitment to the Labour Co-operative and wish her well in her retirement!

Mikelis Jaunalksnis – Safety and Sales Representative, Newcastle Branch

Left recently on a 3 month backpacking holiday to Europe. We look forward to Mitch's return early August.

WAY TO GO LABOURCO!



Cost Effective
Staff Selection

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EXTENSION OF GREEN CARD AND PRE-MARCH 2004 TRAINING CERTIFICATE ACCEPTANCE

WorkCover has granted a temporary extension on pre 29 March 2004 training certificates and "green cards".

Until 1 September 2006, existing "green cards" or pre-29 March 2004 training certificates can be used as proof of training.

As at 2 September 2006 only a current WorkCover Construction Induction Certificate will be accepted as suitable proof of training.

All conversion applications lodged by 31 March 2006 are being processed and a new certificate dispatched to you.

However if you did not lodge a conversion application or were ineligible for conversion you must undertake training/retraining with a WorkCover accredited trainer and obtain a WorkCover Construction Induction Certificate. Training must be completed by 1 September 2006 with the Statement of Training form issued on the day of training valid for 30 days whilst your new certificate is being processed.

For further information call WorkCover on 13 10 50 or visit www.workcover.nsw.gov.au.

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YOU HAVE UNTIL 30 JUNE

WorkCover National Certificates of Competency

Changes to the OH&S Regulation mean that all pre-96 licences will not be recognised after June 30, 2006.

How to convert the old license:

If the license was issued in NSW before 1996 and you have the original, you will need to complete an "Application for Conversion" and a "Proof of Identity Form" plus the identity documents (or certified versions) you have nominated in the proof of identity form.

If you do not have the original documentation, then you will need to complete a "Replacement Form" if there is an equivalent National Certificate of Competency and a "Proof of Identity form" plus the documents you have nominated in the proof of identity form.

Present this documentation at any WorkCover Office and pay the \$30 fee, or send it to WorkCover NSW, Locked Bag 2906, Lisarow NSW 2252.

Licenses that can be Converted to National Certificates of Competency:

Only licenses issued in NSW before 1996 that have an equivalent national class need to be converted. Class Codes include:

Scaffolding, Dogging, Rigging: SB, SI, SA, DG, RB, RI, RA

Load Shifting: LF, LO, LL, LB, LS, LE, LD

Pressure Equipment: BB, BI, BA, TO, ES

Crane & Hoist: CT, CP, CV, CD, CB, CN, CS, C2, C6, C1, C0, HP, PB, HM, WP

Nb. State licenses i.e.. Explosive Power Tools and Falsework/Formwork will not be converted. For more

information refer to the WorkCover website: <http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/OHS/WorkplaceTraining/ConstructionInduction/default.htm>