



Update — July 2014

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Entitlement Statistics for 2014:

• Total entitlements paid:	672
• Total value of entitlements paid:	\$5,171,718.74
• Average weekly rate paid for all entitlements:	\$1,109.26
• Average weekly rates paid to specific trades:	
Boilermaker:	\$1,155.53
Bricklayer:	\$1,098.46
Carpenter:	\$1,141.04
Carpet layer:	\$974.25
Concreter:	\$1,179.40
Electrician:	\$1,256.37
Fitter & Turner:	\$975.53
Glazier:	\$925.21
Labourer:	\$1,199.64
Landscaper:	\$946.07
Painter:	\$987.11
Plant operator:	\$1,052.87
Plasterer:	\$1,128.54
Plumber:	\$1,138.50
Refrig Mech:	\$1,128.45
Rigger/Scaff:	\$1,081.14
Roadmaker:	\$1,052.88
Sheet Metal Wkr:	\$1,079.96
Other:	\$1,107.56

The weekly rates are an average of the rates actually paid by TasBuild to employees taking an entitlement during the subject month. The weekly rates paid have been calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the Rules of the Fund. In general terms the rates represent the ordinary weekly amount payable to the employee and do not include site specific or other various compensatory allowances.

Changes to the Board

Long term Board member Mr. Kevin Harkins has recently announced his resignation from the TasBuild Limited Board.

Kevin has a long and proud history as a member of the Board and has worked diligently to make TasBuild a quality service organisation for the Industry. We all wish Kevin the very best with his future endeavours.

As a consequence of Kevin’s resignation Unions Tasmania have appointed the Secretary of the CEPU, Mr. Trevor Gauld to represent them on the Board.

Mr. Gauld is a past member of NT Build, the Northern Territory’s equivalent to TasBuild. His experience should enable him to very quickly become a productive member of the Board.

Internet Return Lodgement: GOOGLE CHROME problems.....

A number of our employers who are lodging their returns via the internet have recently reported lodgement issues after upgrading their internet browser to GOOGLE CHROME.

Our Systems people have advised that GOOGLE CHROME includes a number of features that are incompatible with the TasBuild online lodgement process. They recommend Internet Explorer be used when lodging returns online.

We have discussed these issues with our Systems people and have asked that they review the compatibility issues and rectify accordingly. We will advise you further once this is done.

Court matters

Despite TasBuild now having been operating for over 16 years and portable long service being a feature of the construction industry for over 43 years, a number of employers claim ignorance in this area.

This is an issue TasBuild are addressing as part of our Strategic Plan. Having said that these same employers when confronted with the legislation supporting the authority of TasBuild, refuse to comply with their statutory obligations.

As we have previously stated on numerous occasions, we wish to work with employers to assist them to comply with their obligations. We will bend over backward to help out, however where our assistance is not reciprocated or is ignored we will take steps to enforce compliance to remove any unfair competition from employers doing the right thing.

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Court matters continued.....

Recently a number of business operators were identified by TasBuild as potentially being employers operating within the construction industry. We sought their assistance to provide details of their operations and their employees.

Despite taking a facilitative approach, we were ignored. As a consequence we issued formal Notices in accordance with the legislation, which were also ignored. While the employers continued their stalling tactics we continued to facilitate the employers to provide the requested information.

Due to the continued lack of responsiveness by the business operators we initiated action in the Magistrates Court, civil and criminal divisions. The civil matters were initiated to obtain a court order that the business operators **provide** the requested information. The criminal matters were to prosecute the employers for **failure to provide** information.

In each matter taken to Court we were successful. Orders to provide the requested information were issued and fines for the criminal matters ranged between \$300.00 and \$1,000.00. Further, one employer did not comply with the Court Order and was prosecuted for Contempt of Court and a fine of over \$1,500.00 was applied.

We take our jobs seriously and are prepared to assist employers and employees as far as we can but we are duty bound to ensure everyone complies with the legislative requirements of the Act and we will enforce it where required.

Self Employed Interest Rate

At the June meeting of the Board it was determined that the interest rate to apply to Self Employed contributions for the 2014 to 2015 financial year would be 8.4 percent.

Payments by EFT Employer information

If you're one of the many employers simplifying the payment of your contributions to TasBuild via EFT, it is strongly recommended that you include your Employer Number as part of the information that accompanies this payment.

Where you use your Employer Number in this situation it diminishes the possibility that your payment is credited to the wrong account and will save TasBuild staff time in identifying the actual employer making the payment. Thanks for your assistance with this matter.

Quarterly Returns

The Board wish to reward employers who can demonstrate historical compliance with their legislative obligations in relation to Return Lodgment and Payment timeframes, by allowing them to lodge their Employer Returns on a **quarterly basis**.

If you wish to be approved to lodge Employer Returns quarterly, simply email the CEO at **secretary@tasbuild.com.au**, requesting approval. Your compliance history will be checked and you will be advised as to whether you meet the requirements for quarterly lodgment.

The information contained in this Update is of a general nature and does not constitute legal advice. We encourage you to seek your own professional advice to find out how the Construction Industry (Long Service) Act applies to you.