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Please note: Copies of the Monthly Employer Updates are also available on the TasBuild webpage at www.tasbuild.com.au

**Entitlement Statistics for
May 2013**

- Total entitlements paid: **80**
- Total value of entitlements paid: **\$683,356.84**
- Average weekly rate paid for all entitlements: **\$1,057.88**
- Average weekly rates paid to specific trades:

Boilermaker:	\$1,159.40
Bricklayer:	\$803.70
Carpenter:	\$1,173.88
Concreter:	\$918.84
Electrician:	\$1,272.10
Glazier:	\$946.67
Labourer:	\$1,023.93
Plant operator:	\$951.27
Plasterer:	\$1,035.05
Plumber:	\$1,009.47
Refrig Mech:	\$1,221.30
Road maker:	\$812.04
Sheet metal Wkr:	\$939.74
Other:	\$1,400.58

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.

Portable Long Service

It appears that the concept of portable long service for other industry sectors is gaining some interest. In Tasmania Minister O'Byrne hosted a forum of stakeholders from the Contract Cleaning, Community Services and Security industry sectors to discuss the matter.

These sectors were identified due to the itinerant nature of employment and the limited opportunity employees would have to accrue enough service with one employer to access the valuable benefit of long service.

Whilst the activity commenced last year the McKell Institute has recently commissioned the Macquarie University to undertake research into the potential to extend portable long service as a benefit for all Australian workers.

The subsequent report titled "The Case for a National Portable Long Service Leave Scheme in Australia" was released last week. As I understand it the report's findings will be used as a point of reference for discussions with Fair Work Australia regarding the National Employment Standard (NES) for long service.

The report identifies that Australian workers are struggling to balance their work commitments with their family and other commitments due to the changing demands of the labour market. Australians are working some of the longest hours in the world and are staying in the workforce for much longer than previously.

In the above context the McKell Institute believes that it is time to restructure Long Service to make it a 21st Century entitlement by making it portable for all workers.

Credit Card—payments

TasBuild has responded to numerous requests from our clients and have introduced a credit card facility to make it easier for our clients to pay their TasBuild Account.

Payments can be made by going to our web page at www.tasbuild.com.au and then follow the on screen prompts or by contacting the Office and providing your details over the phone, via email or by fax.

Whichever method you choose to use you will need to enter/quote your BPay Customer Reference Number, which can be found on your invoice under the BPAY Logo in the box marked "YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER".

You should note that you can only use a Visa or MasterCard to make such payments and each payment will attract a credit card surcharge of 2%. Visit our web site at www.tasbuild.com.au and follow the prompts from the front screen.

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.