

TELIT Cabling Newsletter ©

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ACMA Cabling review 2018 and Consultation!

In previous eTELITs, we have advised TITAB cablers of an Australian Communications & Media Authority (ACMA) “**Review of regulation of telecommunications customer cabling**”. TITAB and other stakeholders have also been developing submissions. There is a possible outcome of ACMA moving away from the current CPR Registration system to an even more “self-regulatory” or “deregulatory” framework.

We have advised cablers of our view that a form of CPR Registration should continue - with some improvements. In broad terms, ACMA is considering a range of options including a virtually unregulated customer cabling scenario with industry probably taking over many responsibilities. This would make “self-regulation” the main vehicle for industry standards compliance.

TITAB has been consistent over the years with other “reviews” in representing to ACMA that “self-regulation” simply does not work! When no active monitoring, standard setting, auditing or inspection roles are played by a regulator, the “good guys” get undermined by the “bad guys”. The recent Banking Industry, Financial Sector and Age Care scandals should be enough to demonstrate to our telecommunications decision makers, what happens when regulation is abandoned or not enforced!

We support the current CPR registration system, and have some suggestions for improvement. An enhanced audit and inspection role with industry support in a genuine “co-regulatory” framework would be a start. Specification of minimum training and qualification standards is an essential ingredient for a successful compliance outcome, quality customer installations and productivity.

In an era where PoE, NBN multi technologies and the future 5G technologies are changing the telecommunications landscape, this is no time to experiment with “De or Re-Regulation”. Telecommunications is now an essential service as the fourth utility, along with gas, water and electrical, all of whom are regulated.

Cablers are encouraged to make individual or enterprise-based submissions and TITAB members should feel free to call one of the technical or management staff at the TITAB National office to clarify any issues in the paper. The review is on the ACMA website (www.acma.gov.au) and can be located by putting the name of the review in the search function.

The ACMA Consultation Paper has a suggested format based on a series of questions and cablers can comment in a summary or more detailed format. We are working with other registrars and industry partners and the due date is *no later than COB 20 December*. **On line submissions** can be made via the comment function or by uploading a document or **by post**.

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"Smart Wiring" in telecommunications is OK for CPR registered cablers

"Smart Wiring" is a trademark used to help CPR registered cablers with quality improvement and accountability and has been widely used by "electrical" sector workers. TITAB ACMA CPR registered cablers - with mandated endorsements/specialist competencies - are encouraged to also use the facility at no cost, as we have an agreement with the trademark owners. It provides:-

- Access to "Smart Wired" booklets - **Home Wiring Essentials**, **Quick Guides** and the **Installer Handbook**. These are an aid to better understandings with customers.
- For Registered Cablers meeting the endorsement criteria – Structured and Co-Axial (and fibre if the job needs it) – to sign off with the **Smart Wired Logo** (A Sample Label is in the eTELIT of August 2018) and is downloadable from the website.

The ACMA Compliance Form TCA1 and optional TCA2 still need to be given to the customer. This is essential for cablers, as in the event of any litigation, omission works against the cabler.

Smart Wired is copyright and owned by the ICAA (International Copper Association Australia) and the "electrical" sector has been using the marketing advantages for some time. It is part of our efforts to lift quality and provide some advantages to the "good guys". It can be particularly useful for sole traders and small contractors.

The smart wired website is www.smartwiredhouse.com.au and the ICAA are on www.copper.com.au When installing cabling into a property that meets the minimum requirements of the *Home Wiring Essentials* i.e. communications or entertainment, cablers can sign off that the home is *Smart Wired* and complete the compliance label.

eTELIT references – New Cabling Standards

The **TITAB eTELIT** is often used for larger articles and reports on important industry matters. For example, the report printed in the Electro Comms Data (ECD) magazine titled *New Cabling Standards-What You Need to Know* by Paul Stathis is reprinted by permission in the September 2018 eTELIT.

It is a good reference for cablers on changes to key standards, including the Wiring Rules AS/CA S009, the Authorised Cabling Products S008 and explains links to International Standards. PoE specifications on new cable and problems with legacy cabling loads will be big issues for the future.

TITAB Website

The TITAB website has had recent upgrades to incorporate an easier Search function for cablers wanting to check their details.

Cablers can also reference the website for technical issues or recent newsletters.

Telstra's requirements for Depth of Cover for Underground Lead-in Cables, HFC Broadband Cable Network

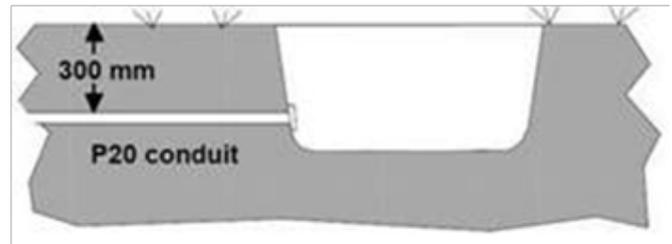
This article by Telstra was in response to a TITAB cabler (Ian Jacobs) enquiring about lead-in depths.

In the street

If the lead-in travels further than 2m down the street in the communications alignment before entering the customer's property, the conduit must be at a depth of 450mm for the length it is in the communications alignment. However, if the lead-in conduit immediately turns into the customer's premises after exiting the pit it can have a 300mm minimum depth of cover from the pit to the property entry point.

In the Customer's Property

- The preferred depth of cover below the existing surface level is 300 mm, however, the following minimum requirements are acceptable if a new conduit cannot be installed underground
- Depth of 50mm under concrete
- Placed in gardens at a depth of 100mm
- Attached to a permanent solid fence
- Attached to a permanent fixture such as a wall.



Industry code for enterprises at the final stage!

TITAB Australia has worked with other stakeholders to update the Industry Code for Enterprises. The original model is still "on the books" but needing modernisation, as it was originally approved in July 2003. Sign off is getting closer and is complicated, as we need a range of agencies to give their OK before ACMA can approve the modernised version.

The Communications Advisory Group (CAG) is working on the project with the RCWS (Registered Cabler Website) Consortium with advice and support. It is a part of our industry efforts to improve quality in cabling. We would like to have a national Quality Assurance/ Professional Development program, based on a co-regulatory model, but with the current "hands off" approach pushed by the federal government on the regulator, ACMA, it is hard to negotiate.

The recent Priority Compliance Audit conducted by ACMA shows that the 35% non-compliance figure (across a range of measures) is still high and no better than in previous audits, so there is a real need to improve compliance, which in turn leads to customer quality.

Meeting the training demands of industry

(This content is from *The Australian Financial Review* in commercial partnership with TAFE Enterprise. It was written by Jon Black, TAFE NSW Managing Director)



My eldest son is an energetic young man, and at age 21, is already onto his third career. Believe it or not, this makes him just about average among Millennials.

People entering the workforce today are expected to have 17 jobs in five careers over their working lives. And that is not simply due to modern attention spans being shorter, but equally due to the changing nature of work, the rise of automation and other technologies, and the remarkable rate at which new and emerging industries are defining the modern economy.

But these trends are not just important to people entering the workforce today; they have profound implications for employers too. Businesses seeking a competitive edge are beginning to acknowledge the urgent need to upskill and reskill their existing workforce.

Take your local shopping centre. Only a few years ago we all bought our goods in the same way. There was no other way. Now, with the widespread adoption of self-checkouts, reduced demand for cashiers and the proliferation of new business models, employers need their workforce to have a different suite of skills. Skills, for example, in digital literacy, data analytics and modern supply chain practices.

And it is here where some of Australia's top-tier companies are turning to TAFE NSW for assistance. Before long you can expect to see testimonials from blue-chip firms such as Microsoft, Cisco, Lendlease and PwC about the way they are using TAFE NSW services to identify training challenges they are facing, and the way they are then working with us to design bespoke solutions that address those challenges. Vocational training and education is about the ability to demonstrate practical skills competence, not just the theory of what to do.

When I talk with business leaders about their training requirements, the answer is always the same. They want training solutions that are consistent enough to roll out across their organisation, but flexible enough to respond to changes in the commercial environment, be they technical, technological or otherwise.

What this reflects is a constantly evolving world of work where many skills and knowledge are perishable. And where so-called "soft" skills in areas such as leadership and management are equally important.

Shift towards specific skills

The trend we are seeing globally is a reduced emphasis on traditional qualifications, and a shift towards "skill sets" designed specifically to address areas of need, and to ensure that employees are job ready from the moment they complete their training.

What we are seeing is that business is increasingly enthusiastic about investing in this area. This is because they can see and even quantify the commercial benefit they derive from it, and because they know that any arrangement they arrive at with TAFE NSW will be fit for purpose, cost-effective and guaranteed to produce results.

Bit-by-bit, business is dismantling the myth that it is easier, cheaper or less-time consuming to hire new staff rather than invest in the development of existing employees.

And the employment market is no one-way street – businesses prepared to invest in their employees will find it easier to attract top talent.

So, for organisations looking to stay ahead of the curve, or for those businesses anxious to remain competitive in a rapidly changing marketplace, now is the time to have a good look at your employees' capabilities. Are they fully equipped to handle the pressures of the future?

Our unrivalled geographical reach and significant investment in state-of-the-art digital learning products mean we are able to deliver solutions on a scale well beyond what has recently been considered possible.

A strong economy with plenty of well-paid jobs depends on a thriving business sector. As we transition from a resources-fuelled economy into a more diversified economy with broader drivers of growth, we must ensure we have the human capital required to confront the challenges of the 21st century. The futures of our children and grandchildren depend on it.

And who knows how many careers our grandchildren might have?

Cabling Complaints

All communications cabling work must be performed by a registered cabler. If a cabler is registered, they will have a card which proves that they can legally perform cabling work and must be undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard AS/CA S009:2013 Installation requirements for customer cabling (Wiring Rules).

The Wiring Rules define the technical requirements for the installation or repair of cabling that is connected to a telecommunications network.

The Wiring Rules also cover cabling practice sufficient to ensure that the installation or normal use of the cabling does not expose cablers or customers to any dangers and/or adversely affect the telecommunications network.



The ACMA does not regulate quality of work.

If a customer is unhappy with cabling work completed in the home or office, they should:

1. contact the Australian business or cabling provider; and
2. if a resolution cannot be reached, contact the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA). The ACMA can only act if the cabler is not

appropriately registered or if the wiring rules have been breached.

The matter can also be referred to the office of consumer affairs or fair trading in the relevant state or territory.

Any complaints about a cabler or cabling work should be reported to the ACMA.

- There is an [Online complaint form](#) on the ACMA website for this purpose.

This form should be used to lodge a complaint about:

- an unregistered cabler who is performing cabling work; or
- non-compliant work that has been performed by a registered cabler.



A recent trip to Vietnam by one of the TITAB staff members showed that, without adequate regulations, cabling could be a "jungle of wires". It is therefore vital that standards are maintained. The cabling complaint system via the ACMA is a necessary component of the telecommunications system.

Contact Information

Training Products

To order TITAB products go to www.titab.com.au or call TITAB on 03 9631 0800

Training Package Information

www.training.gov.au

nbn™

www.nbnco.com.au

Communications Alliance

www.commsalliance.com.au

Wiring Rules AS/CA S009:2013

ACMA

www.acma.gov.au

1300 850 115

info@acma.gov.au

Standards Australia

www.standards.org.au

Underground Cable Locations

www.1100.com.au

A2A and Network Boundary Issues

www.telstra.com.au/smartcommunity/mybuilder.html

gilbert.b.moore@team.telstra.com

Telstra high load passage

Email : high.loads.telstra@team.telstra.com

FAX: 07 3013 2607

Registered Cablers Website

www.registeredcablers.com.au

Smartwired

www.smartwiredhouse.com.au

ADTIA

www.adtia.asn.au