



Plumbers,

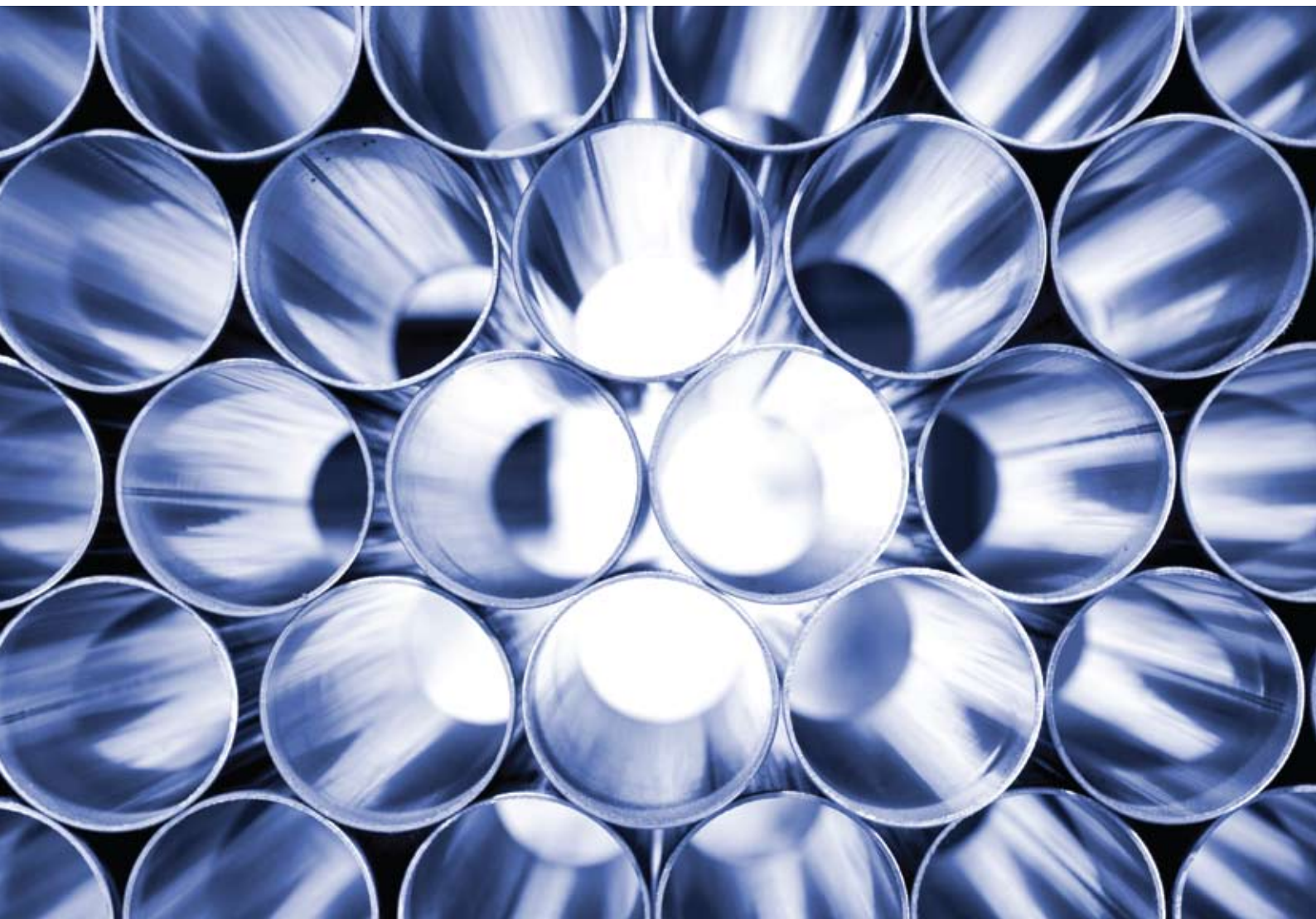
Gasfitters and

Drainlayers Board

Annual Report

Year ended 31 March 2008





Contents



The Board	2
Statement of Purpose	2
Chairman's Message	3
Board Achievements	4
Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Act 2006	7
Competency Auditing 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008	10
Board Membership	11
Board Members for year ended 31 March 2008	11
Board Meetings	11
Board Committees	12
Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Examinations	13
Examinations Results	14
Written Examinations	14
Registrations	15
Complaints	16
Discipline	17
Prosecutions	20
Australia New Zealand Reciprocity Association (ANZRA)	22
Financial Statements	24

The Board



Rod Miller Chairman



Anthony Salisbury Deputy Chair



Flora Gilkison



Murray Willis



David Coxhead



Penelope Nicholas



Marj Noble



Graham Owen



Neil Burrow



Paul Warren

The Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board is a body corporate constituted under the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 1976, which is administered by the Department of Building and Housing. Among its functions the Board is responsible for arranging examinations, dealing with applications for registration, making recommendations concerning education or training, ensuring adequate levels of competence (of gasfitters and gas inspectors), exercising disciplinary powers and instituting prosecutions for the breach of any Act or regulations relating to sanitary plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying.

Services performed by plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers have a direct effect on health and safety, the integrity of certain public network utilities, the gas supply and the wider environment. Through its various activities the Board seeks to promote and safeguard the health and safety of people, their property and the environment.

Statement of Purpose



To protect consumer health and safety in New Zealand by ensuring that plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers are competent and licensed.

Chairman's Message



A number of milestones have been achieved during this, the second year of the current Board's term.

First, the year started with over 3500 plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers purchasing their annual licence online. This initiative completes the Board's goal adopted in 2003 that "the Board will move to online services to support its business objectives".

June saw the first cycle of mid year registration examinations. The introduction of this extra examination followed a Board resolution in 2006 based on the view that candidates should have more frequent access to the examinations to assist in gaining their qualifications.

In relation to the preparation for the implementation of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006 ("the new Act") a comprehensive consultation document was prepared and circulated widely to practitioners, industry stakeholders, government departments, local territory authorities and advertised to the general public in national and regional newspapers. At closing date of 10 August 2007, 769 submissions were received.

In summary, the result of the consultation determined overwhelming support, particularly from the industry, endorsing the direction of the Board that significant change is not warranted or required.

Another initiative, using information gathered during relicensing, was to complete a detailed regional analysis to determine the average age of the workforce and in particular if the industry was facing a pending "baby boomer" issue. It was pleasing to note the average age of plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers at the time was 44, 38 and 46 respectively.

During the year numbers of those entering into training continued at record levels as did the unprecedented numbers of new registrations.

The Board's Continual Professional Development (CPD) programme for gasfitters continues to be a success story, with the competency level of practising gasfitters at an all time high.

Since its introduction over 4 years ago the programme has seen audit pass rates rise from 29% in 2004 to now consistently above 90%. I cannot congratulate gasfitters enough not only for the way they have embraced this initiative, but for taking ownership of it.

As we move forward now in implementing the new Act, the fine tuning of the gasfitting CPD model over the last few years will prove invaluable as it is this same model which will be rolled out for plumbers and drainlayers alike. In speaking with many practitioners and industry stakeholders, there is a real sense that not only is the industry ready for this advancement, it is adopting a "bring it on" philosophy.

As another year passes, I reflect back on the Board, its achievements, its relationships with stakeholders and overall its function in relation to consumer health and safety. Seldom have I ever worked with such a dedicated and focused group of individuals functioning collectively as a team. It is indeed a pleasure and a privilege to Chair the Board.

I would like to thank all members of the Board for their concerted effort throughout the year, and in particular acknowledge, with much appreciation, the support of the Registrar and the staff from the Board's office.

In conclusion I expect the year ahead to present a number of new challenges which I have no doubt will be attended to in a professional and expeditious manner.

Rod Miller
Chairman



Board Achievements 2007/8

The Board has successfully completed and implemented its 2005-2008 strategic plan that **within three years the Board will have moved to on-line services to support its business objectives.**

www.pgdb.co.nz

Over 3,500 practitioners purchased their licence online during the 07-08 licence year.

In December 2007, the Board's website was upgraded to increase usability and efficiency for both practitioners and the public. The Board continues to see increasing communications via its online services.

Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Age and Region Statistics

This year for the first time, it was a mandatory requirement for practitioners during re-licensing to provide the Board with their birth date. The Board has now completed a detailed analysis of this information:

Average age of a plumber in New Zealand: 44 years old

Average age of a gasfitter in New Zealand: 38 years old

Average age of a drainlayer in New Zealand: 46 years old

Plumbers – Statistics per region 1 Oct 2007

Area	Number	<25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	>70	Average Age
Auckland	1186	174	95	107	155	150	135	131	95	66	56	22	45
Bay of Plenty	358	55	18	34	47	41	58	43	27	21	11	3	45
Canterbury	528	102	45	59	58	59	48	48	40	30	28	11	45
Central North Island	71	17	3	6	5	9	9	6	6	4	5	1	46
Gisborne	41	8	3	4	2	5	5	4	4	3	2	1	46
Hawkes Bay	200	34	15	20	24	23	22	22	14	16	7	3	46
Manawatu	183	38	24	17	23	20	18	16	6	8	9	4	40
Manukau	250	52	34	26	34	26	27	13	11	16	5	6	42
Marlborough	61	5	3	3	11	9	6	6	6	4	8	0	49
Nelson	171	23	13	10	24	26	13	21	18	14	5	4	46
Northland	141	23	10	11	21	7	14	15	16	16	4	4	48
Northshore	403	227	30	28	30	25	20	11	7	13	12	0	32
Otago	309	48	46	33	33	43	33	27	18	14	13	1	43
Rodney	121	12	4	15	10	14	20	18	9	13	6	0	46
Southland	139	33	13	15	7	15	18	17	8	7	4	2	43
Stewart Island	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	45
Taranaki	99	19	10	10	14	8	13	5	10	6	4	0	42
Waikato	489	107	56	46	58	45	38	32	50	22	23	12	43
Wairarapa	72	14	10	2	13	5	8	9	3	3	0	5	45
Waitakere	178	30	21	20	27	27	14	19	9	4	3	4	40
Wanganui	157	28	8	8	18	26	22	24	10	6	6	1	45
Wellington	829	181	91	75	117	87	93	72	52	22	24	15	41
West Coast	39	3	6	2	1	7	4	5	4	4	2	1	46
Total	6026	1233	558	551	732	677	639	564	423	312	237	100	44

Gasfitters – Statistics per region 1 Oct 2007

Area	Number	<25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	>70	Average Age
Auckland	373	103	38	29	35	60	32	34	28	10	0	4	40
Bay of Plenty	126	38	7	13	18	14	15	14	6	0	1	0	39
Canterbury	210	63	27	25	34	20	17	10	6	4	4	0	36
Central North Island	18	5	3	2	3	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	34
Gisborne	22	8	2	1	2	4	2	0	1	1	1	0	41
Hawkes Bay	64	15	8	6	8	5	7	6	3	6	0	0	39
Manawatu	103	33	19	12	10	9	5	9	2	3	1	0	35
Manukau	86	20	12	9	12	10	13	6	2	2	0	0	37
Marlborough	18	4	3	2	3	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	41
Nelson	92	21	15	6	11	16	6	3	8	6	0	0	39
Northland	40	11	4	3	6	3	5	2	3	2	1	0	40
Northshore	288	214	20	15	13	8	9	3	4	0	2	0	26
Otago	138	37	28	18	11	17	12	7	4	4	0	0	35
Rodney	35	10	1	9	0	8	6	1	0	0	0	0	36
Southland	41	19	2	3	1	3	6	4	3	0	0	0	37
Stewart Island	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	45
Taranaki	72	15	8	8	9	8	8	4	6	4	2	0	40
Waikato	315	90	40	35	54	26	16	19	20	7	4	4	38
Wairarapa	38	13	5	2	7	1	5	3	1	0	1	0	37
Waitakere	58	15	9	4	9	7	5	7	1	1	0	0	37
Wanganui	102	22	6	6	16	16	16	8	8	2	2	0	41
Wellington	444	139	50	44	64	41	51	29	13	6	3	4	37
West Coast	20	2	5	2	0	5	3	1	1	0	0	1	40
Total	2704	897	312	254	326	285	243	170	122	59	23	13	38



Drainlayers – Statistics per region 1 Oct 2007

Area	Number	<25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	>70	Average Age
Auckland	709	59	44	82	98	88	69	101	59	54	33	22	48
Bay of Plenty	262	34	15	27	17	29	36	38	31	22	9	4	48
Canterbury	319	41	25	28	52	31	28	43	26	17	18	10	47
Central North Island	51	8	2	3	7	7	4	4	3	6	6	1	49
Gisborne	31	4	3	3	0	2	6	4	3	2	3	1	49
Hawkes Bay	177	17	13	19	19	24	22	23	15	15	6	4	47
Manawatu	168	25	17	19	18	22	16	13	7	17	11	3	43
Manukau	140	18	16	16	15	21	13	16	9	6	6	4	45
Marlborough	51	3	4	1	7	4	8	6	5	8	5	0	52
Nelson	158	12	8	21	25	23	27	13	10	11	6	2	46
Northland	121	15	5	8	16	13	8	14	14	16	7	5	50
Northshore	108	29	12	14	7	11	13	6	5	6	4	1	44
Otago	239	19	18	23	29	37	28	31	25	17	12	0	46
Rodney	94	14	7	9	7	12	16	6	7	10	6	0	47
Southland	114	18	11	13	8	16	14	19	5	3	6	1	44
Stewart Island	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	45
Taranaki	72	6	6	7	6	5	12	6	10	9	4	1	46
Waikato	413	83	46	25	40	34	46	42	43	23	17	14	45
Wairarapa	60	5	4	4	11	3	9	10	4	3	2	5	50
Waitakere	112	15	8	9	21	23	12	11	8	3	1	1	43
Wanganui	131	18	6	2	18	16	22	26	10	6	6	1	47
Wellington	566	89	46	40	79	78	68	64	40	29	21	12	44
West Coast	39	4	4	6	1	8	4	4	3	2	2	1	45
Total	4136	536	320	379	501	507	482	500	342	285	191	93	46

Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 2006



Consultation document

In June 2007 the Board undertook a significant consultation as it fulfilled a number of requirements in relation to consultation in respect of the pending Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 2006 (the new Act).

The Board was required to consult with stakeholders on key matters such as registration classes, competence based programmes, standards, terms and conditions.

The informative consultation document was distributed widely. Copies were provided to all persons on the public register, Government Departments, local territory authorities, the Board's stakeholders, and advertised to the general public in national and regional newspapers.

At closing date of 10 August, 769 submissions were received.

Consultation Results:

PGDB Proposal # 1

It is the Board's initial proposal to designate 2 categories of registration for plumbers that will allow a practitioner holding either category and the appropriate practising licence to undertake sanitary plumbing as defined under the legislation.

Result: 82% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 2

It is the Board's initial proposal that the current terminology be retained and attributed to a two tier plumbing registration regime:

Registered Plumber
Craftsman Plumber

Result: 72% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 3

It is the Board's initial proposal to designate 2 categories of registration for gasfitters that will allow a practitioner holding either category and the appropriate practising licence to undertake gasfitting as defined under the legislation.

Result: 76% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 4

It is the Board's initial proposal that the current terminology be retained and attributed to a two tier gasfitting registration regime:

Registered Gasfitter
Craftsman Gasfitter

Result: 66% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 5

It is the Board's initial proposal that there should not be a category of registration for a gas inspector.

Result: 68% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 6

It is the Board's initial proposal to designate a category of registration for drainlayers that will allow a practitioner holding such a category and the appropriate practising licence to undertake drainlaying as defined under the legislation.

Result: 88% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 7

It is the Board's initial proposal that if following consultation, it is determined that further classes are required, then alignment with the Australian system should be adopted.

NB: The Board's preferred registration options are detailed in PGDB's proposals #1, #3 and #6.

*Result: 48% supported the proposal

* (This result is irrelevant given the results of #1, #3 and #6)

PGDB Proposal # 8

It is the Board's initial proposal that the minimum standards for registration will be the successful completion of a course of studies and a pass in a specific examination or any other assessment set by the Board.

Result: 80% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 9

It is the Board's initial proposal that wherever possible, the terms and conditions of registration conform with the definition of the particular discipline as defined in the legislation.

Result: 85% supported the proposal

PGDB Proposal # 10

It is the Board's initial proposal that the current CBL programme for gasfitters be continued and extended to include plumbers and drainlayers.

CPD credit requirements will be as follows:

One licence (plumber or gasfitter)	16 credits each licence period
Two or more licences (combination of plumber, gasfitter and drainlayer)	20 credits each licence period
Drainlayer licence	8 credits each licence period

Result: 62% supported the proposal

Summary

Overwhelming support, particularly from the industry, endorsing the direction of the Board that significant change is not warranted or required.

Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers **Act 2006**



New Provisions

The new Act brings with it a number of changes and additions. In particular 7 new provisions will have the most significant impact on the industry:

1. Competence Based Licences for Plumbers and Drainlayers

As currently with gasfitters, the Board will no longer issue annual licences to plumbers and drainlayers based upon the payment of a fee. Following the endorsement of the Board's preferred option the current gasfitting Continuing Professional Development (CPD) model will roll out to plumbers and drainlayers.

2. Limited Certificates only to persons in training

The Board currently issues approximately 2000 limited certificates to persons not in training. The new Act does not allow for this. The Board must administer a new category for these individuals under an exemption.

3. Employer Licences administered by the Board

Currently employer licences are not administered by the Board. The responsibility and administration will transfer to the Board with the implementation of the new Act.

4. Gasfitting on ships, boats, caravans, vehicles and trains is now included in the new Act.

Currently ships, boats, caravans, vehicles and trains are excluded from the existing Act. Under the new Act only a licensed person will be able to undertake this gasfitting work.

5. Significant extension to the exemption provisions

Under the new Act, 11 categories of exemption have been created. Each of these categories will require initial and ongoing competence provisions.

6. All installations under 15kg LPG bottle capacity are now defined as Gasfitting

Currently gas installations under 15kg LPG storage capacity are not defined as gasfitting. This changes under the new Act with the definition extended to include these installations.

7. The Board must implement and administer an infringement notice/system with fines being paid to the Crown.

Minor offences will now attract an infringement notice and/or fine. Currently a significant number of minor offences do not warrant the expense of an investigation and subsequent disciplinary hearing.



Competency Auditing

1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008

Update from Casey – Gas Auditors

Casey Services (NZ) Ltd, is the Board's Gasfitting Auditor and provides the Board with a monthly update on gas audits. This information is from their March report:

- The number of craftsman gasfitters and exemption holders who were audited, from April 2007 to March 2008, was 698.
- Items that consistently feature in the competency audit interviews are as follows;
 - a. Not understanding or able to demonstrate pipe sizing;
 - b. Not providing current employee licences;
 - c. Not providing a current calibration certificate for testing equipment.
- Items that consistently feature at site audits are as follows:
 - a. Installation of gas cooking appliances with inappropriate clearances;
 - b. Installation of hose assemblies and their location;
 - c. Installation of flueless heaters and relevant ventilation requirements.

“The site audit components of competency auditing have maintained a high pass rate at 97%, a figure that reflects the ongoing improvement and development of gasfitters in the industry.

Casey Services looks forward to continuing the audit process in the 2008/10 and further strengthening its relationship with the Plumbers, Gasfitters Registration Board and the industry, to consistently maintain the level of Gasfitter Audit Services.”

Peter Lamborn, Managing Director, Casey Services

Gas Certification Certificates

During the period 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008, 41,174 certificates were issued.

Please note that Gasfitting Certification Certificates can only be issued to licensed craftsman gasfitters.

Board Membership



Board members are appointed by the Minister of Health, under section 6 of the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 1976 as amended in 1999.

- S6(1)(a) Two persons, each of whom must be a craftsman or a registered plumber.
- S6(1)(b) Two persons, each of whom must be a craftsman or a registered gasfitter.
- S6(1)(c) Two registered drainlayers.
- S6(1)(d) Four other persons, one of whom may be a registered person and one of whom may be a representative of a relevant training organisation.

Board Members for year ended 31 March 2008



Mr R Miller	Chairman	Section 6 (1)
Mrs F Gilkison	Deputy Chair Person*	Section 6 (1)
Mr A Salisbury	Deputy Chairman**	Section 6 (1)
Mr D Coxhead	Member	Section 6 (1)
Mr N Burrow	Member	Section 6 (1)
Mrs M Noble	Member	Section 6 (1)
Mr G Owen	Member	Section 6 (1)
Ms P Nicholas	Member	Section 6 (1)
Mr P Warren	Member	Section 6 (1)
Mr M Willis	Member	Section 6 (1)

* resigned in January 2008.

** elected Deputy Chairman on 24 January 2008.

Board Meetings



The Board held 10 meetings and 3 teleconference meetings between 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008.

Board Committees



Technical Committee

Messrs Burrow (Chair), Coxhead, Owen, Warren and Salisbury.

The Technical Committee did not meet, however, considered a number of technical papers and issues presented to the Board.

Finance and Audit Committee

Messrs Miller, Salisbury and Mrs Noble.

The Finance and Audit Committee held 3 meetings between 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008.

Statement of Purpose

To protect consumer health and safety in New Zealand by ensuring that plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers are competent and licensed.



Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Examinations



The number of candidates who applied to sit the examinations is shown for the last seven years.

		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007 ₁
Plumbing Registration	9192	*	129	189	289	309	500	460
Gasfitting Registration	9193	*	72	126	160	161	233	156
Craftsman Common	9194	77	93	103	130	116	146	123
Craftsman Plumbing	9195	143	136	77	122	80	164	113
Craftsman Gasfitting	9196	60	92	47	58	133	89	53
Drainlaying Registration	9197	*	*	*	*	*	45	114

* No examination

₁ Combines the June & November examination cycles

Mid Year Examinations



June 2007 was the first mid year examination cycle. 443 candidates sat their examinations at this time. The Board received positive feedback from candidates for offering the examinations twice yearly.



Examination Results



		2004 pass rate%	2005 pass rate%	2006 pass rate%	2007 pass rate% ₁
Registration Plumbing	9192	31	12	37	32
Registration Gasfitting	9193	65	58	49	72
Craftsman Common	9194	32	58	37	23
Craftsman Plumbing	9195	31	38	63	35
Craftsman Gasfitting	9196	49	62	47	41
Drainlaying Registration	9197	*	*	75	55

* No examination

₁ Combines the June & November examination cycles

Written Examinations

It is the statutory responsibility of the Board to be satisfied as to the competence of persons applying for registration. It is a requirement of all persons seeking registration to have sat and passed the Board's written examinations.

"Excellent results were achieved for registration gasfitting (9193) with drainlaying registration (9197) and craftsman gasfitting (9196) consistent with the previous examination".

"For this examination round some questions with a different format were introduced for the craftsman and drainlaying examinations. These questions were designed to better assess the candidates' ability to design specific installations. Many did very well in these questions showing a satisfactory applied knowledge of the various Codes and Standards".

R Daniel, Chief Examiner

Registrations

The Board approved the following registrations for the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008:

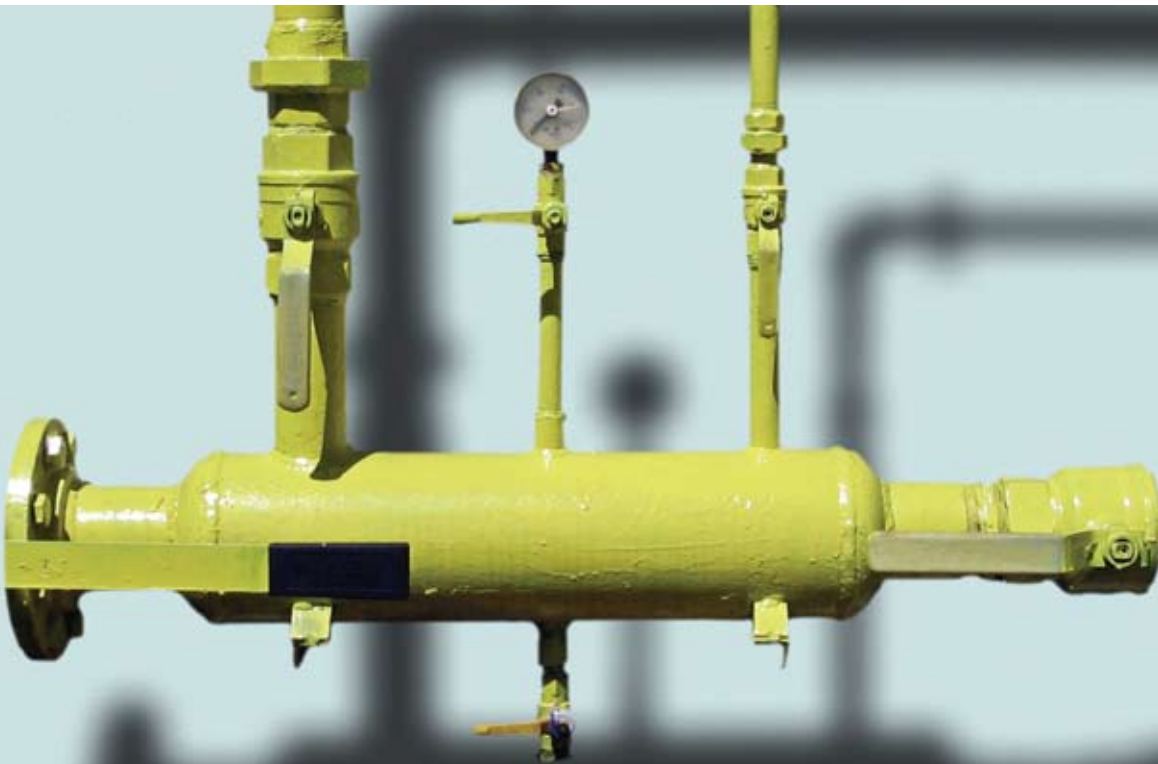
• Craftsman Plumber	117
• Craftsman Gasfitter	59
• Registered Plumber	185
• Registered Gasfitter	133
• Registered Drainlayer	107

The Board approved:

- 39 names to be removed from the register on notification of the registered person's death.
- 2 change of names on the register.
- 1 reinstatement to the register.

Reciprocity Certificates issued

43 Reciprocity Certificates were issued to New Zealand plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers travelling to Australia between 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008.



Complaints

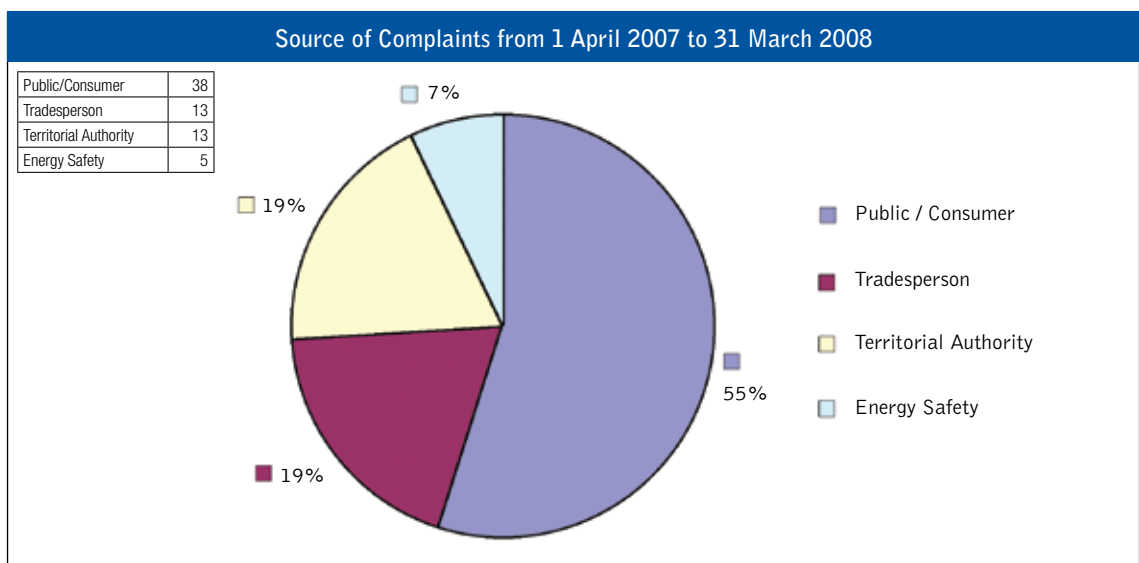
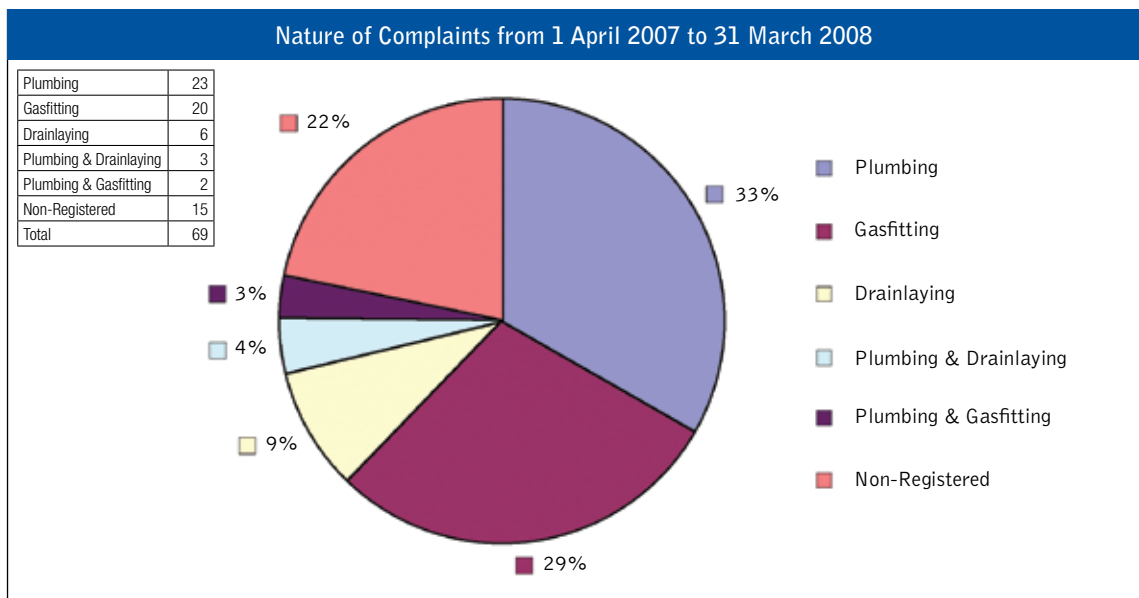


Complaint statistics

Year 1 April 2007 – 31 March 2008

The Board received 69 complaints during the year ended 31 March 2008. Of these complaints, 33% related to plumbing, 29% to gasfitting, and 22% related to non-registered persons.

Of the 69 complaints, 55% were received from members of the public, 19% from industry tradespersons, 19% from territorial authorities, and the remaining 7% from Energy Safety.



Discipline



The Board held a number of due inquiries (“disciplinary hearings”) during the year 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008. A table of those disciplinary hearings, together with details, is set out below.

NAME	CHARGES	PLEA	FACTS	HEARING	DISCIPLINARY ORDERS
Craftsman plumber and craftsman gasfitter	<p>Sections 42(1)(b) or (c)</p> <p>(i) Failed to install a gas regulator (incorporating in-built relief valve) in accordance with Part 1 NZS5261:2003</p> <p>(ii) Failed to ensure commissioning of a gas flued oven was carried out in a competent manner</p>	Agreed Summary of Facts	<p>Board found s42(1)(b) charge established:</p> <p>Knowingly left regulator (which required venting) in a potentially dangerous situation in that it was inverted to a safe external position which resulted in an explosion; attempted commissioning when uninformed as to the procedure and left in a state whereby it was possible for another to commission (with a real risk of injury or serious harm)</p>	18/04/07	<p>Censure</p> <p>Fine \$ 3,500</p> <p>Costs \$4,765.27</p>
Andrew Sung Craftsman plumber, craftsman gasfitter and registered drainlayer	<p>Section 42(1)(b) or (c)</p> <p>(i) Installation, commissioning and certification contrary to NZS5261:2003 and Gas Regulations 1993.</p>	Defended Hearing	<p>Board found section 42(1)(b) charge established.</p> <p>Unaware of nature of inbuilt flue installation</p> <p>Unaware of potential safety risks and complications of unrestrained free standing burner in commercial kitchen</p> <p>Failure to take certification obligations seriously and read all of the parts of form relating to certification</p> <p>Unaware of requirements relating to reporting of dangerous installations</p> <p>Admitted using Australian gas standard that was out of date.</p>	16/05/07	<p>De-Registered as craftsman gasfitter</p> <p>Costs \$11,516.84</p> <p>Publication</p>

NAME	CHARGES	PLEA	FACTS	HEARING	DISCIPLINARY ORDERS
Craftsman plumber and craftsman gasfitter	Section 42(1)(b) or (c) Failed to supervise installation adequately, failed to certify within 10 days, failed to satisfy himself certification accurate (test date inaccurate)	Pleaded Guilty (42(1)(b))	Section 42(1)(b) charge established: Failed to comply with craftsman obligations re gas certification without reasonably satisfying himself statements in certificate were accurate	29/05/07	Suspended for 6 months (gasfitting registration) Fine \$3,000 Costs \$5,125.60
Limited Certificate in gasfitting	Section 42(1)(b) or (c) Carried out gasfitting work without ensuring the installation was left in a safe condition (was connected to the gas supply) and failed to arrange for commissioning of gas fired central heating unit before connection.	Defended Hearing	Section 42(1)(b) charge established: Left appliance connected to gas supply before installation commissioned Disregarded section 27 Gas Act 1992 (Board held to be a dangerous level of incompetence) Operating outside the parameters of obligations as a limited certificate holder	29/05/07	Censure Fine \$3,000 Costs \$10,000
Craftsman plumber and registered drainlayer	Section 42(1)(a) Carried out gasfitting work without a licence	Convicted in District Court under Regulation 37(1) (qa) of Gas Regulations 1993	Defendant installed a Rheem gas water heater – a fire occurred causing damage estimated at \$30,000.	11/07/07	Censure Costs \$2,743.61
Craftsman plumber and craftsman gasfitter	Section 42(1)(b) or (c) Carried out gasfitting work contrary to NZS5261 and Gas Regulations 1993	Agreed Summary of Facts Pleaded guilty S42(1)(c) (Hemp charge only)	Section 42(1)(c) established on both charges: Failure to adhere to floor space/room volume requirements in installing a flueless Challenger 6L water heater Failed to ensure gas fired Infinity water heater was suitable for LPG use Failed to accurately detail gasfitting in gas certification and supply copy to the Board contrary to Gas Regulations 1993	22/08/07	Censure Fine \$4,500 Costs \$8,000

NAME	CHARGES	PLEA	FACTS	HEARING	DISCIPLINARY ORDERS
Craftsman plumber and registered gasfitter	Section 42(1)(b) or (c) Carried out gasfitting work contrary to NZS5261:1996	Agreed Summary of Facts Pleaded guilty to s42(1)(b)	Section 42(1)(b) charge established: Installation not compliant for two years in that defective brazed joint and inappropriate placing of bayonet fitting in small unvented area could have been fatal if build up of carbon monoxide; no certification	3/10/07	Censure Fine \$5,500 Costs \$4,800
Craftsman plumber, craftsman gasfitter	Section 42(1)(c) Carried out gasfitting work contrary to NZS5261:1996 and Regulation 12 of Gas Regulations 1993.	Agreed Summary of Facts Pleaded guilty to s42(1)(c)	Section 42(1)(c) charge established: Failed to ensure satisfactory clearance between top of gas heater and combustible material so as to avoid hazard As a result, the property was the subject of a house fire	11/12/07	Censure Fine \$5,000 Costs \$5,290
Craftsman plumber and craftsman gasfitter	Section 42(1)(b) or (c) Carried out gasfitting work contrary to NZS5261:2003	Agreed Summary of Facts Pleaded guilty to s42(1)(b)	Section 42(1)(b) charge established: Failed to fix the flue to the host wall (gas heater supported only by transition box) Failed to fix transition box to wall contrary to manufacturer's instructions Holes insufficient to allow movement of flue through wall and ceiling Failed to ensure means of isolation of electrical supply readily accessible/identifiable.	5/03/08	Censure Fine \$3,500 Costs \$2,495.00

Prosecutions

The Board is only able to action prosecutions in the District Court, against non-registered persons, or registered persons carrying out such work without a licence, if it has sufficient evidence to do so.

Evidence required by the Board to ensure a successful prosecution includes: full name of person to be charged, date and address of job where the work was done and the names of any witnesses who actually saw that person doing the work alleged. Invoices are useful documentary evidence, as are copies of advertisement(s) placed by the defendant which may reasonably lead others to believe that person is a registered and/or licensed person.

The Board is able to recover 90% of each fine ordered by the District Court against the defendant under the Public Finance Act.

Most prosecutions cost the Board between \$5-10,000 – the more expensive being the defended hearings, with one case in particular (Harms) costing the Board in excess of \$22,000.

S50(1)(a)	Person uses or causes to be used in connection with his business or trade, words that may reasonably cause people to believe he is a craftsman or registered plumber, or gasfitter, or registered drainlayer.
S50(1)(e)	Person does any sanitary plumbing while not holding a current licence as a craftsman or registered plumber.
S50(1)(f)	Person does any gasfitting while not holding a current licence as a craftsman or registered gasfitter.
S50(1)(h)	Person knowingly employs, permits or pays any person to do any sanitary plumbing, gasfitting or drainlaying contrary to the Act.

In the last year the Board has lodged in total 14 prosecutions in the District Court under section 50 of the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 1976. The details of the completed prosecutions are set out in the table below.

Prosecutions April 2007 – March 2008

DATE	CIRCUMSTANCES	OFFENCES	PENALTY
12 June 2007 Raoul Harrison Bathroom Innovations Ltd* North Shore District Court * Disclaimer: Bathroom Innovations Ltd is not to be confused with another company Bathroom Renovations City Ltd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported by consumer Bathroom renovations Sanitary plumbing work not completed by a registered person Poor workmanship Significant remedial work required 	S50(1)(a) Advertising as a "plumber" S50(1)(e) Sanitary plumbing without a licence S50(1)(h)	Convicted – pleaded guilty Fine \$1500.00 Court costs & Solicitors Fees: \$243.00 Reparation: \$3,200.00

DATE	CIRCUMSTANCES	OFFENCES	PENALTY
7 November 2007 George O'Reilly Papakura District Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported by tradesperson Plumbing renovations included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> installing new WC in same position; altering hot and cold water supplies to new shower, vanity and bath fitting PVC traps and waste pipes to sanitary fittings 	S50(1)(a) Advertising as a plumber S50(1)(e) Sanitary plumbing without a licence	Convicted – pleaded guilty Fine – to be sentenced if called up within 12 months Solicitor's fees \$255.00
31 January 2008 Bob Spiekerman Hastings District Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported by Hastings City Council Installed sanitary appliances (shower, waste trap and drain, handbasin and toilet) in outside shed 	S50(1)(e) Sanitary plumbing without a licence	Convicted – pleaded guilty Fine \$750.00 Court costs & Solicitor's fees \$243.00
12 February 2008 James Harms Auckland District Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported by consumers Advertised himself as "plumber" and "registered plumber" Renovated bathroom, kitchen, laundry at one property which required substantial remedial work Undertook repair plumbing work on another complainant's sanitary appliances and fittings Threatened/abused clients and caused significant damage to roof 	S50(1)(a) Advertising as a plumber S50(1)(e) Sanitary plumbing without a licence	Convicted of 9 charges Fine \$9,000.00 Court Costs & Solicitor's fees \$1424.00
4 March 2008 Steve O'Leary Wanganui District Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reported by Wanganui District Council Relocation and addition of a number of bathroom fittings Associated hot and cold water piping and drainage Relocated hot water cylinder 	S50(1)(e) Sanitary plumbing without a licence	Convicted – pleaded guilty Fine \$1500.00 Court Costs \$130.00 Solicitor's Fees \$250.00

NB: 9 further cases are before the District Court either awaiting a status hearing or as a defended hearing.

Australia New Zealand Reciprocity Association (ANZRA) ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Purpose

The Board is a party to the ANZRA Agreement which is a voluntary arrangement between agencies of all Australian States and Territories and New Zealand responsible for the registration and licensing of plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers. The driving force of the establishment of ANZRA in 1950 was the need to assist the mobility of plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers throughout Australia and New Zealand through the reciprocal recognition of qualifications and standards. The Board works closely with the ANZRA members to ensure that the standards across ANZRA jurisdictions are reciprocal.

In November 2006, the National Plumbing Regulators Forum (NPRF) members discussed the current and future relationship between ANZRA and the NPRF. The group recognised that both entities had a similar focus, agenda and membership. There was concern that the efforts of the two entities would be duplicated. The group saw benefit in combining the efforts of these two entities to develop and promote the industry in Australia and New Zealand.

The group decided that a number of ANZRA's functions should transition into the NPRF.

Objectives

The objectives of the ANZRA agreement are:

- to facilitate the recognition, by each member authority, of certificates and qualifications issued by each other to provide mobility in the plumbing, gasfitting and drainage industry;
- to inquire into and assess both local and overseas qualifications;
- to encourage the adoption of uniformly high standards of qualifications and practices within the industry; and
- to exchange information on the functions, practices and standards of each signatory.





Overseas applications

ANZRA also assesses qualifications from overseas applicants for registration. The regulatory bodies accept specific qualifications from seventeen other countries (apart from Australia and New Zealand) as a pre-requisite for sitting the registration examination and the practical test of workmanship in the trade. The seventeen countries are:

- Austria;
- Canada;
- Denmark;
- England, Wales and Northern Ireland;
- France;
- Germany;
- Hong Kong;
- Hungary;
- Ireland;
- Malaysia;
- Netherlands;
- Poland;
- Scotland;
- Singapore;
- South Africa;
- Switzerland; and
- Zimbabwe.

These countries have had their training and qualifications assessed and endorsed by ANZRA against the agreed ANZRA competencies. Once endorsed, an overseas country must seek approval prior to amending their qualifications.

Overseas plumbers and gasfitters contribution to new registrations as at 31.03.08.

Plumbers

Year ended 31 March	Total number of new registrations	Total number of overseas registrations	Percentage of overseas registrations
2004	101	63	62%
2005	111	79	71%
2006	86	77	90%
2007	67	2	3%
2008	185	13	7%

Gasfitters

Year ended 31 March	Total number of new registrations	Total number of overseas registrations	Percentage of overseas registrations
2004	60	44	73%
2005	90	47	52%
2006	70	35	50%
2007	71	3	4%
2008	133	10	7%

