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Editorial: Findings of the ADTIA / TITAB Industry Survey

Late in 2024 / early 2025 TITAB registered cablers and other Industry representatives were asked to complete a survey covering several aspects relevant to their role in the Telecommunications Industry. The full report outlining the findings of the survey can be found on the ADTIA website located **HERE!**

The survey was conducted to assess the situation more accurately as anecdotal evidence in the TITAB Australia Registry was showing an increase in non-compliance to national technical standards and possibly growing activity by a small number of unregistered cablers.

TITAB has been representing to ACMA for years now, the need for Inspection and Audit activities to be restored to the levels when ACMA had Field Officers and Inspectors operating in the states (and territories on occasions) able to conduct inspections on site where serious breaches were reported to ACMA and audits were also conducted about every two years to get an indication of compliance levels.

The most recent audits showed non-compliance levels of around 30% which included serious safety related breaches of the TS 009 mandated technical standards. Non-issuing of the Mandated Compliance Form to customers (known as TCA1) is unfair to customers and can lead to customer/cabler conflict when poor cable performance issues arise. Installations by unregistered cablers is a really serious issue especially if litigation emerges on say, faulty alarm circuits, where costly consequences can arise.

Summary

There is no silver bullet. But we will use the data in forums where we have representation, in government agency committees, RTO conferences, industry newsletters (e.g. Communications Day / Electrical Connection) and via our membership in ADTIA (Australian Digital and Telecommunications Association) an Industry Body with representatives from most sectors of the telecommunications/digital sector.

We thank the cablers and others who responded and gave their time so generously!

A summary of the key messages being provided by respondents are listed below:

- Current training methodologies are deemed to be applicable in the future with some desire to adopt a more formal "trade style" approach for cabling skills.

- A need for increased emphasis on knowledge of standards and compliance in courses.

- Greater auditing of application of standards and compliance in the workplace.

- A need to address training availability in country and remote areas.

- A somewhat DIY approach to installation work assisted by plug and play style product development may result in increases in non-compliance to industry standards in future.

- The impact of changing technologies on the horizon are expected to have a positive impact on business growth in the Telecommunications Industry.

BRCA (BICSI) Registrar Closure

BICSI Registered Cablers Australia (BRCA) has terminated its Deed to provide cabling registration services and is no longer accepting new registrations or renewing existing registrations. The ACMA has advised that cabling providers who are currently registered by BRCA continue to be validly registered until the expiry date of their current registration, after which they will be required to register with another registrar if they wish to continue performing cabling work.

BRCA registered cablers may also choose to register with a new registrar before their registration with BRCA expires. Cablers can be registered with TITAB by contacting us on: **Ph: 03 9631 0800** or via email: info@titab.com.au

There is a specific simplified registration form on the TITAB website for people transferring their existing registration, download the form under the "FORMS" tab or simply click HERE!

Fees may apply on a cost recovery basis for any services provided such as a new TITAB registration card, or new or renewed registration.

Further information can be found on the ACMA website: https://www.acma.gov.au/contact-cabling-registrar

S009 Wiring Rules Excerpt

Cablers and references to the Wiring Rules - The need for compliance!

The *Wiring Rules* for Telecommunications Customer Cabling Installations should be at the core of training programmes for new entrants, but based on some of the queries we get in the TITAB Registry national office, often on quite basic requirements, training on this important standard seems to be a bit light on, in many courses.

Even experienced cablers may need to refer occasionally to the requirements of *AS/CA S009:2020 Installation Requirements for Customer Cabling* as it is a very detailed document, but readily available free on the Comms Alliance or via the TITAB Website. The 2020 version superseded the 2013 version, which many cablers appear to be still using.

There are several changes in the 2020 version listed in the standard and while not fundamentally different, there are a number of updates that are important. The Electrical sector also has their wiring rules which set out separation requirements.

Anecdotal evidence indicates that *separation of telecommunications* from electrical and common features of buildings such as plumbing, air conditioning and other structural objects, is often not understood and many electricians may not be cognizant of the telecommunications requirements.

This technical standard commonly known as Tech Standard 009, clearly sets out requirements for separation.

The relevant section on separation is **Section 9 Separation of Services – General**

- 9.1 Separation from LV power or HV circuits
- 9.2 Separation from services other than LV power or HV circuits
- 9.3 Separation of ES1, ES2 and ES3
- 9.4 separation from Lightning Down conductors
- 9..5 Steel wire armoured (SWA) cables

The link for free reference is located **HERE!**

FSO Project: ICT Training Package Review

A project currently being run by the Future Skills Organisation will update the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) training package based on the findings of FSO's previous project ICT Training Package Review - Needs and Gaps Analysis (ICT NGA) and aims to align ICT qualifications and skill sets with industry needs. Further information can be found on the FSO website at: **https://www.futureskillsorganisation.com.au/telecommunications-technology-qualifications-review**

QLD Regulations: Working in Roof Spaces

Amendments to the Qld Electrical Safety Regulations 2013 commenced on 1 January 2025. It is now mandatory for a worker to turn off (de-energise) the main electrical switch(es) before entering the roof space of your home.

Property owners and residents have also been informed of these requirements via a letter from the **Electrical Safety Office, Office of Industrial Relations.** More information is available at: https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/safety-and-prevention/hazards/electricity/hazardous-electrical-environments/domestic-roof-spaces

NBN Co Fixed Wireless Rollout Completed

Excerpt from the February edition of IT-wire.com

A $750 million program from Australian Government-owned broadband network provider NBN Co to deliver faster and more reliable broadband to regional and remote Australia has been completed. NBN Co says that around 800,000 homes and businesses will now get faster speeds, including during busy periods, with two new high-speed plans available through participating retail service providers.

For more information click **HERE!**

CEDIA Integrators Policy

Excerpt from the March edition of Connected Magazine

Advancing recognition in Australia and New Zealand
CEDIA's advocacy efforts extend to the southern hemisphere, where the organisation has submitted proposals for the official recognition of Smart Home Technology Integrators in both Australia and New Zealand. These submissions, tied to updates in Australia's Occupation Standard Classification (OSCA) and New Zealand's National Occupation List, represent a ground breaking push for industry acknowledgment.

To read the full article click **HERE!**

Warren & Brown Technologies Patch Cords

Excerpt from the April edition of Electrical Comms Data (www.ecdonline.com.au)

WBT has stringent quality and inspection protocols in place so that only high-quality, individually inspected and approved patch cords are delivered. WBT's local Australian manufacturing facilities are equipped with a state-of-the-art optic fibre termination facility, which allows for full customisation of any type of optical fibre patch cord.

For more information: Click **HERE!**

ACMA Complaints

The ACMA complaints processes relating in general to our Industry, and in the main issues with service providers, can be found at the following link: https://www.acma.gov.au/complaints

There are also two main areas of more specific focus relating to the cabling industry:

1. Complaints about cablers and cabling works can be progressed by completing the online "investigation" form located at: https://www.acma.gov.au/cabling-complaint-request-investigation-form Whilst this form is basically designed for use by customers unhappy with either a cabler or the works completed being non-compliant, the ACMA does not follow up on "messy" work, it can only act on cases where the wiring rules have been breached. As most customers would not be aware of the standards in many ways it is up to the cabling industry to self check that standards are being applied.
2. The second area of focus relates to non-compliant or unlabelled products. The location of the applicable form is: https://www.acma.gov.au/non-compliant-or-unlabelled-products-complaint-form

Join Australian Registered Cablers

Advertisement: Listing of your business on the Australian Registered Cablers website is open to any sole trader or business that has an ABN. This will enable customers to find a cabler based on location. To find out more information go directly to the appropriate location on the site at: **https://registeredcablers.com.au/list-your-business/**

Also read testimonials from existing businesses using this service by clicking on the picture below.

Smart Wiring Guides

Click on Images

HOME WIRING ESSENTIALS
NBN READY
QUICK GUIDE TO SMART WIRING
2021 EDITION

HOME WIRING ESSENTIALS
NBN READY
INSTALLER HANDBOOK
Planning and Installing cabling for Residential Technology Services
2021 EDITION

HOME WIRING ESSENTIALS
NBN READY
CODE OF PRACTICE
2021 EDITION
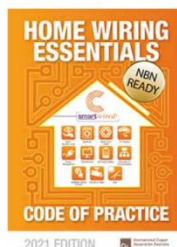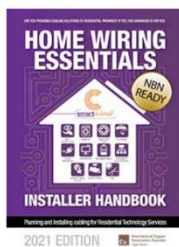
AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED CABLERS

Skills Development

Australian Registered Cablers You Tube Video Presentations, click on the images below

IoT Infrastructure 1:00:07	Beyond the basic AV network 57:59	Deploying WiFi in residential premises 49:09	The Importance of Applying S009 and Adhering to its Guidelines 1:01:19
Iot Infrastructure	Beyond the Basic AV Network	Deploying WiFi in residential premises	The Importance of Applying S009 and Adhering to its…
66 views · 3 months ago	198 views · 8 months ago	881 views · 1 year ago	591 views · 1 year ago

Training	Associations

COMTECH TRAINING

Click on Images

CEDIA
THE ASSOCIATION FOR SMART HOME PROFESSIONALS
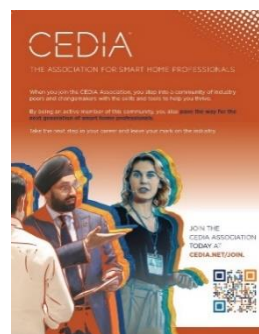
Useful Links

ACMA

ACMA Complaints line

ADTIA

Authority to Alter Facilities in Residential & Small Business Premises

Before You Dig

Communications Alliance

Cabling Pathways Doc

Lead In Conduit (LIC) Build Process

NBN Co

Smart Wiring

Training Packages

Wiring Rules AS/CA S009:2020