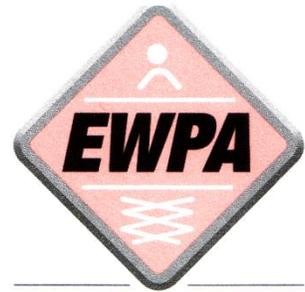


PRESS RELEASE

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ELEVATING WORK PLATFORM
ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

Phasing in of MEWP Logbooks

Over recent years, the EWPA (Elevating Work Platform Association of New Zealand Inc.) has worked alongside various industry stakeholders including Worksafe NZ to develop a Best Practice Guide for the safe use and operation of EWP that will supersede the EWP Code of Practice 1997 (Blue book).

Both documents reference various standards, in this case we refer to AS2550:10 that describes safe use of EWP's and provides guidance on maintenance of EWP's.

The use of logbooks are recommended within this Best Practice Guide. The Best Practice Guide describes the use of logbooks as a *means* of providing information to assist operators with daily checks and a *means* of record keeping for routine maintenance checks and recording of faults.

Logbooks are by no means the only way to record and provide this information, however they do simplify the process, are easy to use and will over time become the industry standard.

This initiative will assist owners and operators with compliance to AS2550:10, and will provide educational and operational consistencies nationwide. Logbooks have been used in the Australian Access Industry since 1994.

It is important to note:

- ***The Best Practice Guide for the Safe Use of EWP's has not yet been released, however, the EWPA expects this to happen within the next 3 months.***
- ***Logbooks and waterproof pouches are not yet available in New Zealand. Stocks arrive late June. Pre-orders can be made online via the EWPA, with expected delivery in July.***

The EWPA suggests that companies wishing to phase logbooks into their businesses, aim to do so within the next two months, so to coincide with the inevitable future release of the Best Practice.

AS2550:10 requires that all complete 'Owner Routine Maintenance & Safety Check' reports, all complete 'Annual Inspection' reports and all complete 'Major Inspection' reports are retained by management and made available for examination as required.

The EWPA reminds owners & operators of the importance of the following:

- Pre-hire check sheets should accompany EWP's sent on hire.
- Staff using EWP's must be competent to operate a EWP.
- Operators must have access to daily check sheets, and complete/ sign off daily checks.
- Operators must have a sound understanding of EWP they operate.

(END)

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