



SUMMARY INFORMATION

## Amendments to the Security Industry Act 2003



On 24 August 2010 the ACT Legislative Assembly passed amendments to the *Security Industry Act 2003*. The amendments were included in the Security Industry Amendment Bill 2010 which can be accessed via [www.legislation.act.gov.au](http://www.legislation.act.gov.au).

A commencement date for the amendments is yet to be set.

The amendments will expand the current suitability criteria and pre-requisites for applicants for an employee licence to work in the security industry. Applicants for an employee licence (to patrol, guard, watch or protect property; act as a bodyguard and act as a crowd controller) will be required to obtain information about their workplace rights and responsibilities from representatives of a registered organisation, before they can be issued with a licence.

As part of the application for a licence these employees must provide a certificate from a registered organisation that indicates that they have obtained this information about their rights and responsibilities.

The information will ensure that members of the security industry are informed about their workplace entitlements and responsibilities under laws in force in the Territory.

The amendments have been progressed due to the nature of security industry work which means that many security employees in the manpower sector do not have the opportunity to discuss their employment rights. In other types of workplaces a union representative could provide this information at mealtimes and during breaks. This is difficult in the security industry as employees may work in isolation and may only be able to take short 'crib' breaks.

Changes to the application forms and guidance material will be made closer to the commencement time to ensure that all applicants for a licence are aware of the new requirements.

A review of the amendments will be conducted 12months after their commencement.

If you have questions about the amendments please contact the Office of Regulatory Services on 6207 3000.