

EWP Operator Training



Silver Card Training - Old vs. New

The purpose of this document is to clarify the differences between the old Silver Card training programme and the new programme.



The Old Silver Card training programme 1999 – 30 Dec 2014

The Silver Card Training Programme was originally designed as Duty of Care training. The training covered all aspects of operating a EWP safely but the program was not fully moderated. The content was designed specifically for operators and also assisted companies and employee's to fulfil their obligations and the requirements under the HS&E Act.

The New Silver Card training program 31 Dec 2014 – Current

The introduction of the Silver Card Training programme came about for several reasons, including but not limited to:

- The need to provide more content around rescue plans & risk management
- A move from Duty of Care style delivery to Competency-Based training
- New training material, resources and branding
- To align with a nationally recognised training framework.
- Including expiry dates, and requires the card holder to undergo refresher training as per Best Practice guidelines for MEWP
- Access to check a cardholder online

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Must I now have the new Silver Card to be able to continue to operate a EWP?

A. No! The old Silver Cards are accepted by Worksafe as proof of competency. Old cards have an expiry date, and will disappear completely over time. Both old and new cards met the responsibilities placed upon owners, employers and operators under the past and present HS&E Act.

Q. What was the reason for changing the program if the old Silver Card training met requirements of the HS&E Act?

A. Industry were moving to competency based training with pathways to Nationally recognised Qualification, more content, refresher training and a programme that could react quickly to changes in industry.

Q. Can I change my old Silver Card to the new one?

A. Unfortunately there is no provision for holders of an old Silver Card to upgrade to the new Silver Card without retraining. Put simply, the old Silver Card structure does not directly map to the new program. However, there are allowances in the new training programme for experienced operators in the retraining process.

Q. What happens if I come onto a site and I'm told that I must have the new Silver Card?

A. This requirement will be site-specific and <u>is not</u> driven by Worksafe, the HIANZ, or the Elevating Work Platform Association of NZ. Site specific requirements should however be complied with. HIANZ recommends that any operators who feel their skills are dated, should undergo retraining regardless.

The Hire Industry Association of New Zealand believes that, both the old and the new training programs are acceptable under the HS&E Act.

For any further information please contact the Hire Industry Association on 07 8738957 or email training@hianz.net.nz