

## What is Comcare?

Comcare is the federal occupational health and safety and workers' compensation scheme.

### What has changed?

Businesses covered by state and territory health and safety and workers' compensation schemes can now apply to be covered **ONLY** by Comcare.

### Could your employer move to Comcare?

Yes, if your employer does anything that a Commonwealth enterprise does, or use to do. This includes transport, communications, financial services, building and construction, munitions production, research laboratories, retail and energy supply.

#### Companies currently in the Comcare system:

<b>ADI Limited</b>	<b>Australian air Express Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Australian Postal Corporation</b>	<b>CSL Limited</b>
<b>Optus Administration Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Pacific National (ACT) Ltd</b>
<b>Reserve Bank of Australia</b>	<b>Telstra Corporation Ltd</b>
<b>Visionstream Pty Ltd</b>	

<b>John Holland Group Pty Ltd</b>	<b>John Holland Pty Ltd</b>
<b>John Holland Rail Pty Ltd</b>	<b>K&amp;S Freighters Pty Ltd</b>
<b>Linfox Armaguard Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Linfox Australia Pty Ltd</b>
<b>National Australia Bank Ltd</b>	<b>National Wealth Management Services Ltd</b>

#### Companies declared eligible to apply

<b>Chubb Security Personnel Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Chubb Security Services Ltd</b>
<b>Toll IPEC</b>	<b>Toll Transport</b>
<b>Toll North</b>	

Correct as of 26th April 2007

Transferring to Comcare requires satisfying both the eligibility criteria **and** a set of conditions



### Eligibility criteria

Under the SRC Act, certain Commonwealth authorities and eligible corporations may apply to the Commission (SRCC) for licenses to self insure their workers' compensation liabilities and/or manage claims. The criteria are very broad.

A corporation can be considered by the Federal government if it

- Was previously a Commonwealth authority or
- About to cease to be a commonwealth authority or
- In competition with a Commonwealth Authority.

### Conditions an applicant must satisfy are:

- (a) Sufficient resources to fulfil the responsibilities
- (b) Capacity to ensure claims will be managed in accordance with standards set by Comcare
- (c) The granting of a licence will not be contrary to the interests of the employees of the licensee whose affairs fall within the scope of the licence and
- (d) The applicant has the capacity to meet the standards set by the Commission for the rehabilitation and occupational health and safety of its employees.

Comcare may also apply additional conditions when granting a licence.

Workers should be consulted by their employer, at least when a company has been declared eligible to apply.

## Beware the Comcare con

The Federal Government is attempting to take over workers compensation and Occupational Health and Safety by stealth.

This is unnecessary, given that the Victorian, NSW and QLD state governments are harmonising their OHS and compensation laws in key areas. The state process is collaborative and will provide a streamlined administration of compensation and uniformity in a number of OHS areas.

Workers are now worse off under the federal government's stripped back OHS laws and recently the government made it harder to claim compensation for common workplace illnesses under Comcare.

## What can you do about it?

Ask your local member, or candidate that supports **Your Rights At Work** to get involved

Ask your state or territory government what they are doing to stop the rot.

## Our health and safety is worth fighting for!



## Is your company moving to Comcare?

### What you can do in 7 steps

1. Contact your union
2. Call a meeting of members
3. Demand your right to be consulted & make sure your union is involved
4. Draw up a list of all the good and bad things that your employer does in the area of health and safety & list any serious incidents/ injuries/ fatalities that have occurred. (This can also be sent to Comcare).
5. Demand no lowering of rights and entitlements
6. Demand full disclosure to your union of all documents relied on by your company in seeking SRCC approval
7. Demand that the approval of workers be gained before any move happens and any self insurance application be deferred until all issues are resolved

## Need more information?

Ask your union or contact the Your Rights at Work hotline for more information on  
**1300 362 223**



## Important information about Comcare

*Is moving to a system with lower standards, fewer inspectors, less prosecutions and (often) worse compensation payments in your interest?*

