



Happy new Year 2008

The Dates for the combined SARNZ/SRIIT Conference have now been set.

Conference will be on the 3rd and 4th of July at Napier. More detail will be given out as we firm details up.

The intention is to run both days from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Ideas for an agenda are now being looked at and you can get in touch with me if you have any ideas.

There is no guarantee that your subject will make the agenda but we will look at it.

BCITO

We had what appeared to be a very productive meeting with the BCITO in Wellington to discuss the future of the non-notifiable units which still come under the wing of the BCITO.

We had been asked for comment on the unit standards as part of the normal review, and took the opportunity to ask the BCITO to consider

releasing those units back to what as we see as their natural home - Opportunity Training and SRIIT.

Carpenters and sub-trades had some concerns about what might happen if they gave us control back of 9184 and the two other up to five metre units, but I think we reassured them that there would be practical change to their qualifications, and that it was not some sort of plot to stop people building scaffolds up to five metres.

The consensus at the end of the meeting was that it made sense to move all scaffolding and harness units from the BCITO to their proper home.

Opportunity will now make a formal approach to the BCITO for it to happen and we'll work through the practical matters that go with the transfer.

A part of that will be how the users of the non-

notifiable unit standards can have representation on SRIIT.

I'm sure many of you are reading this and thinking "so what? We only build real scaffolds."

Firstly and most importantly we will be able to integrate all scaffold training from top to bottom in a natural progression.

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In time, the non-notifiable units will become a part of the Elementary Scaffolding Certificate.

People will still be able to do just 9184 in isolation for instance, but if at any stage they want to go for a Scaffolding National Certificate they will already have a foot on the first rung of the ladder.