



Accreditation  
& Training



### Achieving “Agsafe Advanced” status

You will have all heard by now that Agsafe is introducing a new level of premises accreditation called Agsafe Advanced.

The new Agsafe Advanced level is to reward those locations achieving a high standard of compliance. In the next two years, locations meeting the Advanced criteria will move to a four year accreditation cycle and will have lower costs associated with maintaining accreditation.

Other locations not meeting the Agsafe Advanced criteria can still be Agsafe accredited but will remain on a two year premises accreditation cycle. These locations will be charged on a cost recovery basis for the cost of this visit.

From August 1 all locations visited by an Agsafe facilitator and who meet the criteria will be rewarded with Agsafe Advanced. We are keen to encourage all of our members to achieve the highest standard.

### What criteria must be met to achieve Agsafe Advanced?

- All locations requiring accreditation must be able to finalise any corrective actions **within 21 days** from the date of your Agsafe Facilitator visit.
- Evidence **MUST** be produced to support the signed report that is returned to your Facilitator. Evidence can include photos, written documents, proof of work or receipts from third parties and statutory declarations.
- Reports must be signed off by managers or a manager’s delegate.
- Corrective actions must be deemed acceptable against the Agsafe Code of Practice by the relevant Facilitator.

### What can I do to ensure I achieve Agsafe Advanced?

The way to achieve accreditation has not changed. From our experience over the years, those businesses which appreciate the need for an industry standard, who prepare for their accreditation ahead of time and then act quickly on any corrective actions will stand an excellent chance of gaining Agsafe Advanced.

*To summarise:*

- Prepare in advance using the Agsafe pre-consultation checklist available on our website
- Use of the Agsafe Code of Practice to provide advice on the compliance standards
- Communicate with your facilitator before and after your assessment to understand what you need to do
- Ensure a quick response to any corrective actions – 21 days is the cut off point for reports to be received
- Provide evidence of your actions, i.e. photos or written evidence
- Put in place a system to ensure maintenance of compliance standards

## **How will ongoing compliance for businesses on a four year cycle be ensured?**

It is the obligation of every eligible business to achieve and maintain Agsafe accreditation. Agsafe is the industry body set-up to manage accreditation and assist members with ongoing compliance. Working together we can continue to make the industry safer than it has ever been. The decision to enable our members to achieve Agsafe Advanced status was made based on the overall performance of the industry - the majority of eligible industry members are doing the right thing, and this rightly deserves recognition.

Moving to a four year cycle does not mean that you will be overlooked. Quite the opposite! We acknowledge that whilst you are excelling in accreditation, it may be easy to lose track of what needs to be done. To ensure that all of our Agsafe Advanced members remain compliant we will be implementing a number of strategies.

- Agsafe Advanced Members will be required to complete self-assessment check lists on a regular basis
- Agsafe can arrange courtesy visits when a Facilitator is in your area
- You can contact Agsafe at any time and arrange for a “fee for service” visit if required
- The new @Agsafe database will let us contact you directly to provide you with industry news, information and updates to legislation that effect your business
- Businesses found to be non-compliant at any time during the four year period may have their cycle changed back to two years

### **Can I lose my Agsafe Advanced Status?**

Locations not maintaining their high compliance levels may be moved back to Agsafe Essential level in the future. Businesses that are pro-active about their accreditation and compliance should be able to continue to meet Agsafe Advanced Status.

### **What if my business doesn't achieve Agsafe Advanced?**

Those members not achieving Agsafe Advanced this time around will be awarded “Agsafe Essential” status. This means that you need longer than 21 days to gain accreditation – this may be due to some more significant corrective actions being required by your Facilitator. Stores remaining on this cycle will be charged a cost recovery fee for the next visit in two years time.

The timeframe for compliance at Agsafe Essential level is therefore extended from 21 to 30 days. A series of written advice will follow at the end of the 30 day period should compliance still not be achieved. If a location remains non-compliant, Agsafe may commence sanction proceedings according to the Agsafe Code of Conduct as authorised by the ACCC.

### **What if I disagree with the result of my assessment?**

Agsafe has an appeals process which is detailed on our website. [Agsafe Appeals Process](#)