



173 Queen St  
Warragul  
Ph: (03)56 235005  
Fax: (03)56 234933  
vctrader@bigpond.net.au  
[www.vctraders.com.au](http://www.vctraders.com.au)



### **The Hire and Rental Industry Association.**

Individual hire companies do not operate alone. As members of The Hire and Rental Association (HRIA) member hire businesses gain specialised assistance pertinent to the industry. This assistance ensures all hire companies operate to a nationally governed service and safety level.

One of the aims of the Association is to continually improve safety and develop product training and instruction for end users. Safety sheets on many different types of hire products are available, plus ongoing projects focused on improving this area. Members work to a 'Code of Ethics', which focuses on safety, reliability and quality of equipment and support. This code is continually updated, keeping members abreast of current safety requirements and regulations.

The current 'Code of Ethics' is as follows;

- | To pledge honesty and reliability in all transactions
- | To maintain the high standard of equipment available for hire and the efficiency of the industry
- | To encourage the friendly exchange between members of the knowledge of practical and technical subjects
- | To foster co-operation with manufacturers and suppliers

With over 700 members and growing, the Hire and Rental Industry Association Ltd is the key industry body relating to the hire and rental industry in Australia. Representing an industry worth \$2.8bn annually according to the latest Australian Bureau of statistics survey, the Association represents the Australian industry at national and state levels, bringing members a diverse array of benefits..



## FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

### Press Release

# Operator safety a high priority for the Hire and Rental Industry

Sydney, NSW – Tuesday, July 27, 2004 - Concern continues to be expressed about the number of accidents occurring in the home renovation market by over-zealous and inexperienced operators of potentially dangerous plant and equipment.

Lack of education and information on the safe and correct use of equipment used in home renovations is one of the leading causes of these accidents.

The Hire and Rental Industry Association (HRIA) and its members are at the forefront of educating and informing the public about the safe and correct use of equipment. Home renovators and the growing Do-It-Yourself (DIY) market have the opportunity to be instructed in the safe handling of building and renovating equipment simply by hiring the equipment from an HRIA member business such as **Warragul Equipment Hire**.

Members of the HRIA continue to work hard to make operators aware of the importance of safety. As part of the process of hiring out equipment, hire companies conform to a rigorous set of regulatory requirements plus have additional systems and services in place for operator education.

Regulatory requirements identified by the Occupational Health & Safety Act and overseen by Workcover Inspectors in the field are stringently adhered to by HRIA members companies to ensure the highest standard of safety for both employees and hirers of equipment. The HRIA, as a national industry association, maintains a close eye on changes to safety legislation and works with its members to develop national codes of business management to ensure safety measures are identified, adopted and implemented into HRIA member business like **Warragul Equipment Hire**

All rental equipment is thoroughly checked and maintained prior to each hire and electrically tested and tagged as applicable. All rental equipment is hired out complete with written operating instructions, warning decals and labels, and support manuals as required.

The hirer is instructed on the use of the equipment and further advice is available through brochures and videos. The hire company also checks the hirer's qualifications to operate certain types of plant where a license is required.

In addition, hire companies now have the ability to issue product risk assessment sheets (PSA) with most items of plant. These PSA's, developed during the past 12+ months by the HRIA in conjunction with equipment suppliers and legal advice, clearly identify the hazards that could be encountered while using the equipment, along with solutions, level of risk and key operating instructions.

This full support service, offered by members of the HRIA, is not only in place to meet OH&S Acts and Regulations but to ensure the operator is fully briefed on the safe operation of the equipment they have hired.

More and more homeowners are getting involved in the DIY home improvement market. The hire industry is striving to meet the demand for a vast array of plant and equipment and at the same time ensure operator safety.

But, user beware. No matter how thorough the safety training and equipment servicing, the operator also has their own obligation to safety.

Common sense must prevail. Home renovators can be assured one of the advantages of renting the equipment from an HRIA member hire outlet means they will have the right tool for the job every time.

Plus, the equipment will be checked, tested and the user instructed in its safe use. Hire companies like **Warragul Equipment Hire** pride themselves on exceeding the customer's needs by providing the right equipment for the job, both safely and effectively.

Repeat business is a large part of any hire company's custom so it is in the interests of the hire industry to ensure operator education by passing on all relevant safety information. Delivering reliable equipment with the right advice and safety information and education is the best way to develop strong business ties and customer loyalty. The HRIA supports its members by ensuring the latest safety information is available and that every member has the tools to meet national and state OH&S legislative requirements.

All enthusiastic home improvers or backyard blitzers should seek advice from a reputable hire company like **Warragul Equipment Hire** on the right type of equipment to rent and the need for further training or licenses to operate the equipment.

For further information on hire contact Cameron Taylor at Warragul Equipment Hire for quality, informative advice and the latest and safest equipment on 0356 235005 or [sales@vctrader.com.au](mailto:sales@vctrader.com.au)

