

# Media Release



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## NEW ONLINE PLATFORM FOR FARM SAFETY LEARNING

AgCard – an exciting new online portal that underpins workplace health and safety best practice – is being launched today by Primary Employers Tasmania.

The pre-farm employment induction program is designed to encourage Tasmanian primary industry employers and employees to identify and manage workplace health and safety risks, and provide essential awareness and understanding of standard WH&S procedures.

Primary Employers Tasmania President Felicity Richards said AgCard was funded by a much-appreciated grant from WorkCover Tasmania.

“AgCard will not replace on-farm inductions, but instead encourage positive and proactive conversations around practical workplace health and safety habits and rural-relevant human resources matters,” Ms Richards said. “This is about creating a sense of ownership and a strong culture that we are all responsible for safety at work.

“Primary Employers Tasmania’s key goal is to see less workplace health and safety incidents in the State’s primary industries and to normalise constructive WH&S conversations and good behaviours.”

The Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy acknowledges agriculture as a national priority for preventative activities. There were 34 on-farm deaths across Australia in the first six months of 2019, including four in Tasmania.

AgCard will be promoted across a number of industry associations, as well as Primary Employers Tasmania members, from today. Employees will be able to log into the AgCard portal, view a number of Safe Farming Tasmania videos and WH&S information, then proceed to answer questions to prove they have viewed and understood the information. After completion, an acknowledgement of completion will be sent to applicable employers, and the employee will be given a certificate of completion indicating they are ready to start work and complete an on-farm induction.

Ms Richards encouraged all farmers to complete the online program themselves, as well as introduce AgCard to existing and new employees.

“We are never too old to learn,” Ms Richards said. “We all have a duty of care to ourselves, our families and our workers so this easy-to-use online tool will reinforce that WH&S is everyone’s responsibility.

“Primary Employers Tasmania is confident that all school leavers and young people wishing to be employed in our agricultural industries will proudly present an AgCard certificate to their new employers on day one to show their unwavering commitment to workplace health and safety.”

Primary Employers Tasmania has advertised for an AgCard Project Officer to work one day a week to assist with the rollout of AgCard across the State’s primary industries.

AgCard can be accessed from <https://www.primaryemployers.com.au/agcard>. There is no cost for Tasmanian farm employers or employees to complete the practical training in year one, but a fee will be applied to all non-Primary Employers Tasmania members from year two.

### For more information, please contact:

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