

The Ontario College of Trades has fined E-M Air Systems for employing uncertified workers

Oakville, ON (April 7, 2014) — The Ontario College of Trades (the College) has fined E-M Air Systems for allowing uncertified employees to perform the work of a Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems Mechanic (313A), which is a violation of the Ontario College of Trades and Apprenticeship Act, 2009, Section 4.

On March 18, 2014, E-M Air Systems pleaded guilty at the Burlington Provincial Offences Courthouse and was fined \$400 plus a victim surcharge of \$85 for employing or otherwise engaging individuals in the practice of a compulsory trade without certification.

The Ontario College of Trades is an industry-driven, professional regulatory body that protects the public by regulating and promoting the skilled trades.

One of the main responsibilities of the College is to ensure that individuals performing the skills of compulsory trades have the training and certification required to legally practise this trade in Ontario.

Members of the public have a right to expect that companies and individuals they engage to do the work of compulsory trades have the legal qualifications to perform that work. Tradespeople, who have invested time and money in achieving their professional status in the trades, deserve to work on a level playing field, and be protected from the underground economy.

“It is an important safety measure that the public and businesses confirm the qualifications of tradespeople they are hiring to do the work of a compulsory trade,” said Bob Onyschuk, Director of Compliance and Enforcement for the Ontario College of Trades.

The full list of compulsory trades can be found on the College’s website.

Quick Facts

- The College currently has 41 enforcement officers throughout Ontario to maintain high industry standards while protecting the public.
- Provincial Offences Notice (more commonly known as ticketing) carry a fine of \$195 for an individual and \$295 for an employer.
- Repeated offences and other sections of the legislation may result in charges being laid. The result of these charges could lead to fines of up to \$5,000 for the first offence and up to \$10,000 for the second offence.

- There are 22 compulsory and 134 voluntary trades currently in Ontario.
- Anyone working in a compulsory trade must have obtained a Certificate of Qualification in that trade and be a member in good standing with the College. The public can confirm a compulsory trade professional's qualifications through the College's public register, available on our website.

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