

**3411-13 Lift Mechanic
(review)**

March 2009

Review rating: *Shortage*

Employer and industry comments/current labour market

A survey of employers who recently advertised for lift mechanics was undertaken in March 2009. There was some cold canvassing of employers to supplement contacts in states where vacancy numbers were low. Nationally 36 per cent of surveyed vacancies were filled within four weeks of advertising, a slight increase from the 30 per cent fill rate recorded in late 2008. Some employers had attempted to recruit for an extended period before successfully filling some of their vacancies. Employers attracted an average of 1.6 applicants per vacancy, less than half the number received in December 2008 and the number of suitable applicants per vacancy remains low at 0.5. Primarily, applicants considered to be unsuitable by employers lacked necessary qualifications and experience.

The majority of advertised vacancies surveyed were in Western Australia where two large employers are attempting to recruit multiple lift mechanics for construction projects due to commence soon. Anecdotal information suggests redundancies of lift mechanics have occurred in some states, particularly Victoria, due to a slowdown in commercial construction activity. It appears that most redundancies are installation lift mechanics rather than service lift mechanics. Employers commented that while installation work has slowed in some States because of economic conditions, demand for lift service work remains steady.

Labour Market Outlook

There are no indications that the labour market for lift mechanic will change significantly over the next six months.