



Guidance

In-Service Inspection Procedures

The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989

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SITUATION

Employers, the self-employed and employees have duties under the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

What is the recommended scope of the service that SAFed Member Inspection Companies should provide if contracted to undertake an audit of a client to advise on their compliance or otherwise with these Regulations?

GUIDANCE

It is recommended that the following aspects are considered if contracted to undertake an audit service of a client to advise on their compliance or otherwise with the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989.

1. Electrical System

- A. Integrity of Construction to prevent danger.
- B. Standard of Maintenance (Electrical).
- C. Control of Working Systems (Electrical).
- D. Maintenance and suitability of protective devices and electrical equipment.

2. Strength and Capability of Equipment

The ability of installed equipment to withstand the effects of electrical current flow both in normal use and under fault conditions.

3. Environment

An assessment of the potential detrimental effect of the work area environment on the electrical system.

4. Insulation

An assessment of the insulation and location of electrical conductors/equipment.

5. Earthing

- A. The adequacy of earth fault protection and the connection of all exposed and extraneous conductive parts to the general mass of earth.
- B. The existence or otherwise of a potential source of high impedance or break in earth continuity.

6. Connection Apparatus

The suitability of all points of electrical connection.

7. Isolation

The adequacy of isolation of electrical energy.

8. Safe Working Procedures

The adequacy of working procedures, including documentation, operation, Permit to Work Systems and training for work on the electrical system.

9. Live Working

An assessment of the potential for live working being required on the electrical installation or electrical control systems.

10. Working Environment

The adequacy of access to and illumination of parts of the electrical system requiring maintenance or other work.

11. Management Systems

The competency levels of electrical maintenance and project personnel or other persons carrying out work on the electrical system.