

Chapter 9

Electrical safety



Most work on electrical equipment requires trained, competent and/or licensed workers. There are separate Electrical Safety Authorities and laws. If in any doubt contact these authorities.

The health and safety laws only refer to the basic requirements. These include, but are not limited to:

- Any unsafe electrical equipment must be disconnected or isolated from its power supply
- Any unsafe electrical equipment must not be reconnected until it is repaired, tested and found to be safe
- Any electrical equipment is inspected and tested by a competent person
- Untested electrical equipment must not be used
- Electrical work is not carried out on energised electrical equipment. This excludes work carried out by or on behalf of an electrical supply company.
- De-energised must not be inadvertently re-energised (see Chapter 15: Machinery and equipment).

If the supply of electricity to the electrical equipment is through a socket outlet, then Residual Current Devices must be used if:

- The electrical equipment is used in an environment that could damage the equipment or lead to a reduction in its expected life span, including conditions that involve exposure to moisture, heat, vibration, mechanical damage, corrosive chemicals or dust
- Electrical equipment is moved between different locations in circumstances where damage to the equipment or to a flexible electricity supply cord is reasonably likely
- Electrical equipment is frequently moved during its normal use
- Electrical equipment forms a part of, or is used in connection with, an amusement device.