

WHY DO WE NEED ONE..?

ENWCML manages the control, operation and maintenance of your HV and LV systems under a COMA contract, this agreement manages the scheduled intervals of intrusive and Planned Preventative Maintenance to ensure your compliance and longevity of the assets.

Below are listed some of the regulations and recommendations you need to be aware of:

A basic introduction from the HSE is available.

This guide is designed to provide business owners with a clear understanding of the key regulations and standards governing electrical safety in the workplace. By adhering to these guidelines, you can significantly reduce the risk of electrical accidents, protect your employees and ensure compliance with legal obligations.

Key Regulations and Standards

The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989:

This regulation outlines the legal duties of employers to ensure the safety of electrical systems and equipment in the workplace. Key responsibilities include:

Regular inspection and maintenance of electrical installations

Only the use of competent and trained persons on High and Low voltage equipment

Safe working practices

Effective logging and management of remedial recommendations

Effective record keeping of maintenance activities and future schedule in place

... A QUESTION OFTEN ASKED REGARDING HIGH & LOW VOLTAGE COMA Contracts

We know our customers take their compliance with the 'Electricity at Work Act' and 'Health and Safety' regulations very seriously.

HSE Guidance:

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) provides valuable guidance on electrical safety, including best practices and recommendations.

The importance of working with competent contractors such as Electricity North West (Construction and Maintenance) Limited (ENWCML)

When engaging contractors to work on electrical installations, it's crucial to ensure they adhere to relevant British Standards. This guarantees that the work is carried out to the highest standards of safety and quality. Key standards to consider are included below and all of these standards are fully adhered to by ENWCML when working on behalf of its COMA customers:

BS 6423:2014: Provides guidance on the maintenance of electrical switchgear and control gear for voltages up to and including 1kV.

BS 6626:2010: Covers the maintenance of electrical switchgear and control gear for voltages above 1kV and up to and including 36kV.

BS7671:2018 +A2:2022 (18th Edition): Outlines the requirements for electrical installations, including wiring regulations.

BS EN 50110 Parts 1 and 2:2004-2023: Specifies the operation of electrical installations.

BS EN 60947 Parts 1-8:2001-2024: Covers the specification for low-voltage switchgear and control gear.

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Construction and Maintenance

Key Considerations for Business Owners

Regular Inspections and Maintenance: Schedule regular inspections and maintenance of electrical systems by suitably qualified professionals. Keep accurate records of inspections and maintenance activities.

Competent Person Checks: Ensure that only competent persons carry out electrical work. Regularly assess the competence of employees and contractors.

Risk Assessments: Conduct thorough risk assessments to identify potential electrical hazards and implement control measures.

Safe Working Practices: Develop and enforce safe work procedures for electrical tasks. Provide employee appropriate training and PPE.

Emergency Procedures: Have clear emergency procedures in place for electrical accidents. Conduct regular emergency drills to ensure preparedness.

Additional Tips

Stay Updated: Keep up-to-date with regulations and standards.

Consult with Experts: Seek advice from qualified electrical engineers or consultants.

Document Everything: Maintain accurate records of inspections, maintenance, and risk assessments.

Employee Training: Provide regular training to employees on electrical safety.

Emergency Response: Have a well-defined plan in place.

By following these guidelines, you can create a safer and more compliant workplace for your employees and customers.

Electrical Safety for Business Owners

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

A well-defined emergency procedure is crucial to minimize the impact of electrical accidents. Key elements include:

Emergency Contact Numbers: Ensure easy access to emergency services and your designated electrical safety officer.

Isolation Procedures: Clearly outline steps to isolate faulty equipment, including switchgear and circuit breakers.

Evacuation Plan: Develop an evacuation plan and practice it regularly to ensure a swift and orderly evacuation.

First Aid: Have trained first aiders on-site and ensure adequate first aid kits are available.

Fire Safety: Implement fire safety measures, including fire extinguishers and fire alarms.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

A thorough risk assessment is essential to identify potential electrical hazards and implement control measures. Consider the following:

Identify Hazards:

- Faulty wiring
- Damaged equipment
- Exposure to live parts
- Electrical shock
- Electric shock
- Fire

Evaluate Risks: Assess the likelihood of harm and the severity of potential injuries.

Control Measures: Implement appropriate control measures, such as:

- Regular inspections and maintenance
- Safe work practices
- Use of safety equipment (e.g., PPE)
- Warning signs
- Emergency stop buttons

Review and Update: Regularly review and update risk assessments to account for changes in the workplace.

Additional Tips for Business Owners

Competent Person Checks: Ensure that only qualified and competent individuals carry out electrical work. • Regularly assess the competence of your employees and contractors.

Safe Work Practices: Establish clear procedures for working on or near electrical equipment. • Provide adequate training to employees on electrical safety. • Use appropriate tools and equipment. • Avoid working alone on electrical tasks.

Regular Inspections: Conduct regular inspections of electrical installations to identify and rectify potential hazards. • Keep detailed records of inspections and maintenance activities.

Emergency Lighting: Ensure adequate emergency lighting is installed and tested regularly.

Portable Appliance Testing (PAT): Implement a PAT testing program to check the safety of portable electrical appliances.

Security: Prevent unauthorised access to electrical systems.

By following these guidelines and working with qualified electrical professionals, you can significantly reduce the risk of electrical accidents and ensure a safe working environment for your employees.

Conclusion

By understanding and adhering to the regulations and standards outlined in this guide, and via the links provided our COMA customers can significantly improve electrical safety in their workplaces, leaving your HV & LV compliance with us.

Regular inspections, competent trained personnel, and adherence to best practices are essential for preventing accidents and ensuring compliance with legal obligations.

ENWCML can help you build robust and compliant safe maintenance plan and ongoing maintenance strategy for HV and LV electricity assets and services at your site.

Failure to comply with these legislations and guidelines can result in injury or death, and lead to criminal prosecutions for responsible directors of those organisations.

BE SMART | BE SAFE | BE COMPLIANT
with ENW (Construction & Maintenance) Limited

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