

## General Risk Assessment for Domestic (and light commercial) Electrical Work

<b>Date:</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	<b>Assessed by:</b> CDB	<b>Checked by:</b> TDB	<b>Version No:</b> 001	<b>Review Date:</b> 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2018.
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**Task / Premises:** Electrical work in a domestic setting including residential, rented, light commercial and retail. This risk assessment does not extend to industrial. *To be used on all jobs unless a specific site assessment has been completed or provided.*

Item	Activity	Hazard	Who affected	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
1	Working alone	Accidents including shocks and falls.	Worker	<p>Each operative should regard himself as his own supervisor when working alone and supervise each other when working together.</p> <p>Before working alone on a potentially dangerous task, such as live working, inform a responsible person on the premises or the office by telephone. State what you are doing and how long you anticipate it will take and for them to raise an alarm if you have not reported back within the stated time period.</p>	MED	A
2	Working in confined spaces	Inadequate light, ventilation and ability to move away from potential risk.	Worker	Temporary lighting. Increase ventilation through building or wearing suitable face/dust masks. See Item 1.	HIGH	A
3	Working in occupied premises	Injuries to or interference from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	All	Exchange of information plus barriers and notices. Following Safe Isolation and Lock Off Procedures.	MED	A
4	Working with other trades.	In addition to item 3. Overhead work, hazardous substances and materials	All	Exchange of information plus use of personal protective equipment	MED	A
5	Hazardous substance awareness including contact with fibreglass, adhesives.	Asbestos, dust, fumes, vapour, Dermatitis and skin irritation.	Worker	Awareness, Exchange information plus PPE	HIGH	A

6	Background or equipment noise	Damage to hearing	Worker	Wear ear defenders.	HIGH	A
7	Handling equipment / structure e.g cable pulling, working with conduit.	Cuts, abrasions and/or knocks	Worker	Handle with caution, proceed with care, wear protective gloves.	MED	A
8	Work on existing circuits	Electric Shock	Worker	Disconnect following safe isolation procedure. Verify at all stages.	HIGH	A
9	Presence of live circuits in the working area	Electric Shock	Worker	Proceed with care and disconnect if necessary. Appropriate clothing and jewellery. See item 1.	HIGH	A
10	Testing required on live equipment	Electric Shock	Worker	Proceed with care. See Item 1.	HIGH	A
11	Activation of circuits	Electric Shock and/or Fire	All	Inspect, Test and Verify.	MED	A
12	Use of steps	Fall and dropped equipment	All	Ground firm & level. Avoid over-reaching	MED	A
13	Use of ladder	Fall and dropped equipment	All	Correct angle. Ground firm & level. Avoid over-reaching. No high than 5 metres (insurance requirement)	HIGH	A
14	Use of mobile and static scaffolding or mobile working platform.	Fall and dropped equipment	All	This will be a hired/sub-contracted item and therefore we shall follow suppliers guidance.	MED	A
15	Working in roof voids, suspended ceilings and/or exposed floor voids.	Fall, inadequate light, poor ventilation and other risks such as protrusions, cuts & hazardous substances	Worker	Secure working base and firm footage. Temporary lighting and/or ventilation. PPE.	MED	A
16	Working from unguarded height	Fall and dropped equipment	Worker	Wear a safety harness.	HIGH	A

17	Use of cabled power tools and leads	Electric shock, tripping	All	Check for damage before use and place leads out of way.	MED	A
18	Forming holes and chasing cable runs	Dusts, Noise and Cuts	Worker	Wear appropriate PPE (ear defenders, safety goggles, gloves).	MED	A
19	Manual lifting of heavy load	Injury to operatives	Worker	Team handling, correct technique	MED	A
20	Fixing equipment to structure	Equipment falls & circuit fault	All	Check secure fixing & connection	MED	A

**Risk Rating:** LOW - if it is most unlikely that harm would arise under the controlled conditions listed, and even if exposure occurred, the injury would be relatively slight. The risk is MEDIUM - if it is more likely that harm might actually occur and the outcome could be more serious (e.g. some time off work, or a minor physical injury). The risk is HIGH - if injury is likely to arise (e.g. there have been previous incidents, the situation looks like an accident waiting to happen) and that injury might be serious (broken bones, trip to the hospital, loss of consciousness), or even a fatality.

**Result:** T = trivial, A = adequately controlled, N = not adequately controlled, action required, U = unknown risk

## Method Statement For Safe Working Practices

A working site is an ever changing environment therefore the following procedure will be adopted.

### Factors To Be Considered By Operatives Before Commencement Of Any Task

1. What is the nature of the work to be carried out and what are the associated hazards.
2. What hazards already exist on site, including activities of the client or other trades.
3. Are there substances, equipment or articles on site about which you should obtain information.
4. Will the place of work and access to it be safe.
5. What is the condition of the existing electrical installation and are there defects to be reported.
6. Can circuits be made dead and secured before working on them, or is live working involved.
7. What protective equipment will be required and is there sufficient light available.
8. What are the clients safety rules and procedures and should any safety instructions be passed to the client.
9. Will there be a permit to work system in operation.