

## ELECTRICITY AT WORK REGULATIONS, 1989

### ARE YOU FULLY COMPLIANT?

The **Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 (EaWR)** place legal responsibilities on employers and employees, to ensure that electrical systems used at work are safe.

To achieve compliance, demonstrable evidence is required to prove that electrical systems and equipment are safe.

This involves: -

- Proper documented inspection and testing records
- Documented training evidence
- Electrical authorisations
- Control of work activities
- Competent persons
- Specific requirements for work in Potentially Explosive Atmospheres

**Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 is law in the United Kingdom.**

**Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 applies to all electrical systems at all voltages.**



Ex-**PERTS** Chartered Engineers have a long history of successfully implementing policies and procedures, ensuring full compliance with EaWR and other Regulations.

It is essential that your company has a robust policy statement detailing the practical arrangements made to fulfil your duties under the Regulations.

Operational procedures and guidelines need to be implemented to support this policy. This must include a system of electrical authorisations for persons working on or near electrical systems.

Ex-**PERTS** can help ensure that you are fully compliant with the **Electricity at Work Regulation 1989** by offering a range of services to clients: -

- Production of in-house policies and procedures
- Audit of existing arrangements
- Assessment of training requirements
- Implementation of authorisation systems
- Training on the **Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**
- Company specific bespoke training programmes



# Summary of the Electricity at Work Regulations, 1989

## Regulation 1 – Citation & Commencement

- Replaces old regulations
- Adds to Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- Employer's & Employee's duty to comply
- Failure to comply is a criminal act



## Regulation 2 – Interpretation

Circuit conductor, electrical equipment, injury, danger, charged, dead



## Regulation 3 – Persons on whom duties are imposed by these Regulations

Legal duties regarding work on or near electrical equipment of all kinds



## Regulation 4(1) – Construction of systems

All systems shall be designed, constructed, commissioned and operated as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, danger.



## Regulation 4(2) – Maintenance (inspection & testing of systems)

As may be necessary to prevent danger, all systems shall be maintained so as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, such danger.



## Regulation 4(3) – Work activity

Every work activity on or near a system shall be carried out in a manner as not to give rise, so far as is reasonably practicable, to danger.



## Regulation 4(4) – Protective equipment

Any equipment provided for use on or near electrical systems shall be suitable for the use for which it is provided and must be maintained in a condition suitable for that use, as well as being properly used.



## Regulation 5 – Strength & capability of electrical equipment

Imposes a very extensive duty regarding the strength and capability of electrical equipment to be matched to conditions likely to be encountered in service.



## Regulation 6 – Adverse or hazardous environments

Requires electrical equipment to be constructed or protected to withstand adverse or hazardous environments.



## Regulation 7 – Insulation, protection & placing of conductors

Requires live parts which may give rise to danger to be made inaccessible.



**Regulation 8 – Earthing or other suitable Precautions**  
Requires that precautions be taken to protect persons from danger or injury where conductors become live or charged due to fault conditions.



**Regulation 9 – Integrity of referenced conductors**  
Requires precautions to be taken to ensure the integrity of circuit conductors, which are earthed or connected to some other reference point(s).



**Regulation 10 – Connections**  
Requires connections and joints in systems to be mechanically and electrically suitable for their intended purpose.



**Regulation 11 – Means of protection from excess of current**  
Requires suitably located protection against excess currents to be provided as necessary to prevent danger.



**Regulation 12 – Means for cutting off the supply and for isolation**  
Requires provision of two measures of protection to prevent danger to persons who necessarily may work on electrical equipment

- Cutting off the supply of electrical energy to electrical equipment
- Isolation of any electrical equipment



**Regulation 13 – Precautions for working on equipment made dead**  
Requires precautions to be taken to ensure that equipment which has been isolated to be worked on, or has been decommissioned, is made dead and kept dead until deliberately re-energised.



**Regulation 14 – Work on or near live conductors**  
Prohibits live working except under exceptional defined conditions.



**Regulation 15 – Working space, access & lighting**  
Requires adequate space, access and lighting to be provided when work is being carried out on or near electrical equipment or systems.



**Regulation 16 – Persons to be Competent to prevent danger & injury**  
Deals with the competency of persons to prevent danger, or where appropriate, injury.



**Regulation 29 – Defence**  
Permits a defence to be offered against criminal prosecution under certain of the Regulations.



Can ensure that you are fully compliant with the:  
**Electricity at Work Regulations 1989**