



SAFETY ALERT



Electric shock investigations reveal hazards of working in ceiling spaces

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Background

Workplace Standards Tasmania has investigated a number of incidents where electrical practitioners have made contact with unterminated exposed live conductors in ceiling spaces.

The investigations revealed that the electrical practitioners were undertaking work in ceiling spaces and that the hazards were not easily recognised.

Contributing Factors

- Non-compliant electrical work
- Non-recording of electrical work
- Unterminated exposed live conductors

Recommendations

- Ensure there is adequate lighting in ceiling spaces
- Carry out a preliminary inspection of the work area to identify any exposed live electrical cables
- Wear appropriate protective clothing (eg. Overalls)
- Licensed electrical practitioners should use suitable test instruments to identify any suspected electrical hazards
- A risk assessment should be undertaken prior to commencement of work by anyone working within the confines of a ceiling space in order to reduce risk of injury

Further Information

Workplace Standards Tasmania

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