**APPENDIX F (Page 1 of 1)**

|  |
| --- |
| **REQUIREMENTS FOR RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES (RCD)** |

**General**

There is a requirement to minimise the electrical risks associated with the supply of electricity to ‘plug in’ electrical equipment by the use of an appropriate RCD in certain higher-risk workplaces.

**Types of RCD**

There are two main types available:

* Fixed, non-portable units incorporated in fixed wall outlets which replace the normal general purpose outlet and into which the cord of the appliance is plugged; and
* Portable units which plug into a fixed power outlet via a short cord and into which the cord of the appliance is plugged.

**Electrical equipment that requires RCD protection**

* All hand-held electrical equipment.
* Portable electrical equipment that is frequently moved during its normal use.
* Electrical equipment that is moved between different locations in circumstances where damage to the electrical equipment or flexible supply cord is reasonably likely.
* The normal use of the electrical equipment exposes the equipment to operating conditions that are likely to result in damage to the equipment or a reduction in its expected life span.
* Electrical equipment forming part of, or is used in, an amusement device.

**Note** that the requirement for a RCD does not apply where the supply of electricity is to an extra low voltage system that is electrically separated from earth and from other systems so that a single fault cannot give rise to an electric shock.

The RCD must:

* be a non-portable unit, connected on the supply side of the socket outlet, or
* be a portable unit connected directly to the output side of the socket outlet;
* comply with the requirements of [*AS 3190 Approval and Test Specification for Current Operated (core balance) Earth-Leakage Devices*;](https://subscriptions-techstreet-com.proxy.library.adelaide.edu.au/)
* have a tripping current not exceeding 30mA; and
* be tested on a regular basis by means of its in-built testing facility and by an authorised person.

**Testing**

Portable RCDs must be tested before the device is used on any day by means of the built-in test facility. In addition, programmed testing must be conducted and recorded within the School/Branch in accordance with [Appendix H](#AppendixH).

**Note** that the day to day testing does not need to be recorded.

**Records**

Testing records (3 and 6 monthly) are to be maintained by the School/Branch, to provide evidence that portable RCDs have been tested. Records must be kept until the next test.

**Tags**

Portable RCDs must be tagged to indicate the date of the next test and should be checked during workplace inspections to monitor compliance with the Regulations.