

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION AND TESTING: DECISION TOOL

ELECTRICAL TESTING IS NOT REQUIRED

If you answer yes to any of the following – under AS/NZS 3760:2010

Is the equipment new?

(Note – the supplier is deemed responsible for initial electrical safety. New equipment does not need to be tested but still examined for obvious damage. Where there is no obvious damage as deemed by the owner or Head of School/Branch it is to be tagged in accordance with AS/NZS 3760 section 2.4.2.1)

Is it electrical equipment (such as suspended light fittings) installed at a height of 2.5m or greater above the ground, floor or platform, where there is no reasonable chance of a person touching the equipment?

Is it equipment which would need to be dismantled to perform the inspection and tests?

Is it **fixed** (except RCDs) or **stationary equipment** connected to wiring that forms part of an **electrical installation** (e.g. a permanent/fixed installation that does not have a plug/socket outlet)?

ELECTRICAL TESTING IS REQUIRED

(at the frequencies outlined in Appendix B, page 2)

If you answer yes to any of the following – under AS/NZS 3760:2010

Is the equipment portable, hand-held or **stationary equipment**, designed for connection into a socket-outlet?

Is it **fixed** or **stationary equipment** connected by flexible cable/cord that is exposed to damage or in a **hostile environment**?

Is the equipment **fixed** or **stationary** with a flexible cable/cord and moved for restocking, maintenance or, cleaning?

Is it a cord set, extension cord or outlet device or power board?

Is it a portable power supply (including a power adaptor/plug pack)?

Is it a portable inverter that generates or produces low voltage?
i.e. exceeding 50 V AC or 120 V ripple free DC but not exceeding 1000 V AC or 1500 V DC. (See [AS/NZS 3010](#) or [AS 2790](#) for additional information for other portable generators)

Is it a battery charger?

Is the equipment portable and heavy duty tool such as high pressure washers or concrete grinder?

Is it a Residual Current Device (RCD)?

Is it medical equipment or any equipment connected to the medical equipment?
(Note – in additional electrical testing, performance verification is also required. For testing procedures refer to [AS/NZS 3551](#) “Management programs for medical equipment” or [AS/NZS 3003](#) “Electrical Installations – patient areas”)

Is it hire equipment?

Has the equipment been repaired, serviced? ([AS/NZS 5762](#) “In-service safety inspection and testing – repaired electrical equipment” may apply)

Is the equipment second-hand? ([AS/NZS 5761](#) “In-service safety inspection and testing – second hand electrical equipment prior to sale” shall apply)

Definitions and references

Fixed equipment

Equipment which is fastened to a support, secured in position, located in a specific location due to its size and mass.

Stationary equipment

Equipment having a mass exceeding 18kg

Flexing

Flexing in this circumstance means crushing/crimping not kinking/coiling/wrapping

Electrical installation

A permanent/fixed installation that does not have a plug/socket outlet

Hostile environment

Operating conditions likely to result in damage to the equipment or a reduction in its expected life span. This includes, but is not limited to mechanical damage, exposure to moisture, heat, vibration, corrosive chemicals and dust.

Inspecting and testing electrical equipment – other than equipment used in specified higher risk operating environments

(Code of Practice “Managing electrical risks in the workplace” section 3.2)

Lower-risk workplaces include those workplaces that are dry, clean, well-organised and free of conditions that are likely to result in damage to electrical equipment, for example an office, classroom etc. Electrical equipment commonly used in these types of workplaces includes computers, printers and stationary or fixed electrical equipment. Electrical equipment used in lower-risk workplaces may still need inspection and testing on a less frequent basis to ensure that it is safe for continued use.

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