

The law hits firms that don't PAT

Prosecution is a real threat if you don't ensure safety of your electrical items...

...the only realistic way to prove that they are safe is through **Portable Appliance Testing**.

Here are some recent examples of organisations that fell foul of the law...

Canteen Shock

A chef in a Bury works canteen received an electric shock, and the company a £10k fine. Electrical equipment was not being properly maintained and poor wiring and earthing to a cooker rendered it live. www.safeguard-online.co.uk

Dangerous Electrical Items

A potentially lethal lamp sold at a West End store led to a £4,000 fine in a successful prosecution by Westminster City Council Trading Standards. A number of other lamps from the store were seized, and these were also found to be electrically unsafe. In their defence, the company stressed that there was a small sign displayed in the shop stating that the lamps would need to be rewired after purchase. www.tradingstandards.gov.uk/westminster

Injection shock

Dynoplast Ltd Fined £4,500 under EWR 1989. Worker received an electric shock from tools on a plastic injection moulding machine. HSE Prosecution Case F110000715 www.hastam.co.uk

Faulty hand-dryer fatal at McDonald's

Ciara McGinley, 22, from Strabane, Northern Ireland went into a McDonald's restaurant and died when she touched the exposed wiring of a faulty hand-dryer. Belfast Crown Court heard that the condition of the equipment had already been brought to the attention of Diamond Restaurants Ltd., who admitted that they failed to ensure the health and safety of employees. <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

Sony recalls shocking laptops

"A person who touches some metal parts in the back of the laptop might feel a slight electric shock when the dial tone goes off while using the modem," according to a spokesman.

www.safetynews.co.uk

"Have you heard about PAT in the office?"



Don't ignore electrical safety inspections, ring Testinspect on 01202 893800

Senior citizen dies in bath

South Yorkshire Police and the HSE are investigating the death of a man aged 69 from Sheffield who died while bathing in a domestic bath fitted with an electrically powered lifting device. www.safetynews.co.uk

Teenager electrocuted at care centre

Jennifer Hild, 14, undergoing treatment at a care centre in Orinsay, Isle of Lewis, has died from electric shock. According to one account, a radio connected to an extension cable fell from a window sill into her bath. www.safetynews.co.uk

Trading Standards Advice

Following the seizure and destruction of 1,500 unsafe electrical items, Hampshire County Council Trading Standards service is advising residents to be vigilant when buying electrical appliances.

Trading Standards have recently prosecuted a company selling a wide range of electrical goods, particularly lighting products and table fans. These appliances were found to fall well short of EU safety standards and posed the risk of electric shock. East Tower Trading Ltd was fined £18,000 plus £6,770 costs.

No parts of the appliance likely to become live should be able to be touched.

"If you are in any doubt over the safety of an electrical appliance, get it checked over by a qualified inspector to be on the safe side." www.hants.gov.uk

**Don't put your staff and visitors at risk...
...and don't be one of this list of firms.
Contact Testinspect now!**

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