

## Electrical Safety in Queensland

As you are probably aware there have been some changes to the legislation surrounding electrical safety in Queensland, in the release Electrical Safety Act 2002. This piece of legislation centralises and in many ways simplifies an issue that was previously covered by many pieces of legislation and codes of practice for industry. However this new legislation has some wider implications, and intern obligations, for those persons who may have not been affected by previous legislation.

It has come to my attention through our colleague Rob, at Epssoft Computer Services, that there is a significant level of misinformation and confusion surrounding this issue amongst his clients. As such it is important that you, the affected parties, are adequately informed of your obligations and rights under this legislation as an employer or self-employed person to avoid being 'taken for a ride' by an unscrupulous electrical contractor or receiving an improvement notice. It is in your interest to be informed by an independent health and safety professional, as we are there to represent your interests in the form of specialist advice.

Many of the changes in the Electrical Safety Act 2002 will not apply to you, however there are some that will. Such as, the certifying and tagging of electrical equipment used in your business operation, with the intervals for this being dependant upon the type of equipment used and business environment it is used in. The rationale for this is that a static piece of electrical equipment used in an office environment has significantly less physical and environmental stressors placed upon it that that same piece of equipment being used on a construction site, for example an extension lead. Similarly there are certain pieces of equipment that have been banned for use in your business operation, such as piggyback plugs and double adapters.

These are only some of the changes that may apply to you and your business. For further information on these changes and how they apply to you, or any other related health and safety matter, please contact me on the 24-hour mobile number provided or via email.

Sincerely,

Cameron Leigh-Cooper  
Principal