

# Responsibilities of home owners and employers when using electrical equipment



Department  
of Labour

The responsibility for the safe use and maintenance of electrical equipment in homes and workplaces has been placed on the user of such electrical equipment in terms of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 85 of 1993.

## Valid Certificate of Compliance

A valid Certificate of Compliance should be available in homes and workplaces. The Department of Labour is aware that the provision of invalid Certificates of Compliance is becoming commonplace, especially during the transfer of property and new installations.

The Department has therefore accredited Approved Electrical Inspections Authorities throughout the country to ensure compliance with legislation, taking into consideration the responsibilities detailed in the Act, and the infringement of the rights of buyers of fixed property.

## Approved Electrical Inspection Authorities

These Inspection Authorities have been approved in terms of the Act and Electrical Machinery Regulation Number 12, to investigate alleged non-compliance with electrical regulations, including incidents, on behalf of the Department. They will report their findings to the Department, who in return will consider whether or not to proceed with criminal prosecution.

## Assistance by Approved Electrical Inspection Authorities

Users should contact these Inspection Authorities where electrical safety is a concern. Enquiries in respect of the safe use of equipment could include the following:

- \* New electrical installations
- \* Electrical installation alterations

- \* Compliance during transfer of property
- \* Complaints about unsafe installations
- \* Uncertainty about installation of specific electrical equipment (e.g. generators)
- \* Geyser replacements and installation, etc.
- \* Bulk supplies including residential, commercial and factory electrical installations
- \* Solar heating systems (electrical)

## Inspections

Everyone's attention is drawn to section 38(e) of the Act, which prohibits interference with an inspector in his/her duties, and the failure to comply with its regulation constitutes a criminal offence.

## Contact numbers

The Approved Electrical Inspection Authorities can be contacted at the following numbers:

Cape Town	(021) 987 3010
George	(044) 873 2235
Port Elizabeth	(041) 364 2868
Durban	(031) 205 3641
Johannesburg	(011) 957 3961 / 3622
Pretoria	(012) 974 9831
Klerksdorp	(018) 468 8462
Welkom	(057) 353 2289

## The Department of Labour can be contacted at the following numbers:

Pretoria	(012) 309 4382
	(012) 309 4682
fax:	(012) 309 4133

**Comply with Safety Legislation**