

Electrical Fatality

23 October 2019

Incident overview

An electrician has sustained fatal injury from electrocution while servicing a 3-phase commercial dishwasher at a restaurant in Marrickville.



Photograph 1: The commercial dishwasher wiring and control area (3 phase supplied, covers removed)

The investigation

- SafeWork NSW inspectors responded to the incident.
- SafeWork NSW commenced an investigation to determine the cause and circumstances of the incident.



Incident Information Release

SAFEWORK NSW

7/11/2019

Safety Information

Businesses are reminded of their duty to identify hazards and manage risks to health and safety in accordance with the provisions of the [Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#) and [Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017](#).

The Regulation prohibits energised electrical work on electrical installations and appliances, except in specific circumstances.

Electrical work must only be carried out by a licensed electrician who has the necessary training and experience to undertake the task.

Consider 'reasonably practicable' control measures to manage the risks of working with electrical installations and appliances, including:

- checking equipment for damaged covers and cords, exposed wires, faulty power switches and circuit breakers, sparks, scorch marks and burning smells
- locating all sources of electricity to the equipment and property
- identifying hazards that may result from isolating the power
- switching off the power at the meter box or lockable isolator switch, and locking the switch (or the meter box itself). Otherwise use a recognisable lock-out tag
- testing before you touch
- if the property has a solar/battery storage system, follow the proper isolation procedure.

Further information

- [Electrical work guidance material](#)
- [Electrical safety video](#)
- [Code of practice for managing electrical risks in the workplace](#)