

SAFETY ALERT

WHS-ALERT-003-2016

Date: 6th January 2016

Area of Concern: All JCU Staff & Postgraduate Students

Unlicensed Electrical Work

This Safety Alert is to warn of the potentially fatal consequences of a person carrying out work on electrical items.

Common contributing factors to serious injury and likely fatality:

- Working on live electrical equipment;
- The use of faulty electrical equipment;
- Inadvertent contact with 'live' electrical equipment and parts near water or in a damp environment.

Breaches of the Electrical Safety Act:

- Performing unlicensed electrical work;
- Carrying out electrical work on live electrical equipment when not permitted;
- Not taking precautions to ensure the equipment or parts are electrically safe.

Notifiable Incidents

Unlicensed electrical work is a Notifiable Incident. Any unlicensed electrical work that take place at a JCU controlled site must be reported to the WHS Unit for investigation.



Action required:

- Log a MEX request with the Estate Directorate to have the equipment / installation fixed by a licensed Electrician. A licensed Electrician is the only person qualified to undertake installations and repair works on electrical items or installations;
- Ensure that electrical appliances are safe to move by switching off and or unplugging from the power point;
- Do not reset a circuit breaker or a blown fuse without first investigating;
- Always check the equipment prior to use to ensure it is in current test date and the equipment, including the cable, is in good condition;
- Any electrical item that requires repair will be subject to test and tag requirements;
- If unsure of test and tag requirements refer to the WHS Test and Tag Safety Alert or, contact the Estate Directorate.