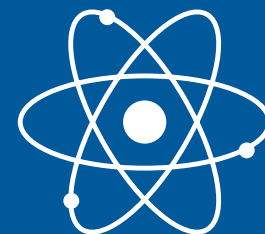


# ELECTRON

EMPOWERING TODAY'S ELECTRICAL WORKERS



## ISSUE NO 16

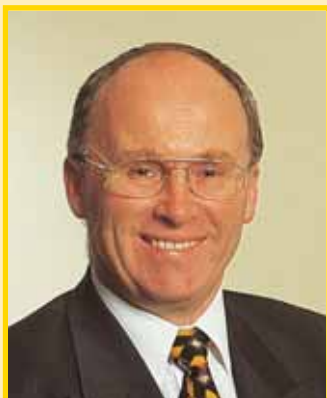
SEPTEMBER 2004

This issue of ELECTRON is dedicated to the introduction of AS/NZS 3760:2003 (In-service safety inspection and testing of electrical equipment).

As indicated in issue 15 of ELECTRON agreement has been reached with Standards New Zealand for the Board to print and distribute copies of the newly issued Standard.

- The Board has a strategic initiative to make all information relevant to the electrical/electronic industry available to those registered electrical workers who uplift practising licences.

In line with the Boards strategic initiative all persons who held a practising licence at 30 June 2004 and all industry training organisation trainees are being sent a copy of the new Standard with this issue of ELECTRON.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Sickels'.

John Sickels  
Registrar

## IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial

AS/NZS 3760:2003



*Safety • Competency*

ELECTRON is published by the Electrical Workers Licensing Group, the service unit of the Ministry of Economic Development for the Electrical Workers Registration Board. If you have any enquiries or comments on this newsletter please contact:

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## **AS/NZS 3760:2003**

*The following text has been provided by Standards New Zealand*

In-service testing is necessary for the safety of persons using the equipment and for the proper discharge of the obligations of employers and employees, as listed in legislation covering occupational health and safety matters. This Standard specifies in-service safety inspection and testing protocols and criteria that satisfy these obligations, and provides a cost effective approach to safety without jeopardizing personnel safety or involving excessive equipment downtime.

The philosophy of the document is to provide an inspection and testing regime capable of implementation with only simple instrumentation, and performed by a person not necessarily having formal qualifications or registration, but who has the necessary practical and theoretical skills, acquired through training, qualification, experience or a combination of these, to correctly undertake the tasks prescribed by this Standard.

The methodology of the inspection and testing process is defined. The frequency of repetition of that process is determined not by the equipment type, but by examination of the environment in which the equipment is used or working in. For indicative purposes a number of environments are provided with associated inspection/testing frequencies prescribed. These are based on the perception of the level of hazard and the degree of abuse to which the equipment is typically exposed. However, there will usually be multiple sub-environments within any location and the inspecting/testing frequency will be arrived at by an assessment of the actual environment in which the equipment is placed or used.

Introduced in this edition is the possibility of allocating the frequency of inspection/testing by undertaking, implementing and documenting a risk assessment.

The test and tag intervals prescribed for hire equipment are aligned with the intervals for environments such as construction and demolition sites.

In-service Testing of Electrical Equipment is to supersede AS/NZS 3760:2001.

The in-service safety inspection and testing requirements in this Standard do not cover testing for the design and approval of equipment (which is covered separately in other Standards).

### **Changes to AS/NZS 3760:2001 incorporated in this Standard include the following:**

- (a) The environment for frequency of inspection and test has been revised to be more usage based, rather than specific site based;
- (b) Customized solutions based on risk assessment are now allowed;
- (c) The "Responsible Person" has been defined and the qualifications of a "Competent Person" clarified by notes;
- (d) Guidelines to the knowledge of electrical principles with which a Competent Person is likely to be familiar have been added as an Informative Appendix, applicable in New Zealand only;
- (e) Additional definitions have been formulated;
- (f) The inspection and test responsibilities of the hirer and hiree are now stated and the inspection, test and tag intervals for the hirer clarified;
- (g) Numerous minor text changes.