

The **Electricity** at **Work** Regulations

22% of all reported fires are caused by electrical faults and Insurers are increasingly making electrical inspections a condition of providing their policy cover (Insurance Times, 2006).

The Electricity at Work Regulations became law in 1989 and require that “all electrical systems should be maintained to prevent danger” and therefore, by implication, all electrical systems should be inspected. Both the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) identify the need for inspections as part of the maintenance programme requirement (including portable appliances and fixed wire installations).

What do you need to do?

For most locations IEE guidelines recommend annual routine inspections and a maximum period between inspections and full testing of 5 years reducing to 3 years for industrial sites. Any defects found as a result of inspection or testing must be remedied and it is necessary to document that these inspections and tests have been carried out.

All electrical work should be carried out by suitably qualified competent persons.

How can TL Risk Solutions help?

Inspections and periodic testing will inevitably be carried out by independent qualified electrical contractors who will charge a commercial rate. TL Risk Solutions can, as an alternative, arrange inspection and testing services via specialist insurers at significantly lower cost whilst still meeting your statutory obligations and policy conditions. We can also advise on other health and safety issues - particularly where they have serious insurance implications.

To take advantage of this service please contact your local office on the numbers listed below or speak to your TL Risk Solutions Consultant.

Birmingham	Tel: 0121 214 6064
Glasgow	Tel: 0141 222 7950
Leeds	Tel: 0113 224 5373
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