

# Recommended Initial Frequencies of Inspection of Electrical Installations\*



| Type of Installation                                       | Routine check<br>Sub-clause 3.5 | Maximum period<br>between inspections and<br>testing as necessary | Reference<br>(see key below) |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1                                                          | 2                               | 3                                                                 | 4                            |
| <b>General installation</b>                                |                                 |                                                                   |                              |
| Domestic general                                           | --                              | Change of occupancy / 10 years                                    |                              |
| Domestic rented                                            | 1 year                          | Change of occupancy / 5 years                                     | 1,2,10                       |
| Residential - halls of residence, nurses accommodation etc | 1 year                          | Change of occupancy / 5 years                                     | 1,2,10,11                    |
| Commercial                                                 | 1 year                          | Change of occupancy / 5 years                                     | 1,2,3,4                      |
| Educational establishments                                 | 6 months                        | 5 years                                                           | 1,2,6                        |
| Industrial                                                 | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Offices                                                    | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Shops                                                      | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Laboratories                                               | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Hospitals General Areas                                    | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Hospitals - Medical Locations                              | 6 months                        | 1year                                                             | 9                            |
| <b>Buildings open to the public</b>                        |                                 |                                                                   |                              |
| Cinemas                                                    | 1 year                          | 1-3 years                                                         | 2,6,                         |
| Church installations                                       | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 2                            |
| Leisure complexes<br>(excluding swimming pools)            | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 1,2,6                        |
| Places of public entertainment                             | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 1,2,6                        |
| Restaurants and hotels                                     | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2,6                        |
| Theatres                                                   | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 2,6,7                        |
| Public Houses                                              | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2,6                        |
| Village halls/Community centres                            | 1 year                          | 5 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| <b>Special installations</b>                               |                                 |                                                                   |                              |
| Agricultural and horticultural                             | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 1,2                          |
| Caravans                                                   | 1 year                          | 3 years                                                           | 7                            |
| Caravan Parks                                              | 6 months                        | 1 year                                                            | 1,2,6                        |
| Highway power supplies                                     | as convenient                   | 6-8 years                                                         |                              |
| Marinas                                                    | 4 months                        | 1 year                                                            | 1,2                          |
| Fish farms                                                 | 4 months                        | 1 year                                                            | 1,2                          |
| Swimming pools                                             | 4 months                        | 1 year                                                            | 1,2,6                        |
| Emergency lighting                                         | Daily / monthly                 | 3 years                                                           | 2,3,4                        |
| Fire alarms                                                | Daily / weekly                  | 1 year                                                            | 2,4,5                        |
| Launderettes                                               | Monthly                         | 1 year                                                            | 1,2,6                        |
| Petrol filling stations                                    | 1 year                          | 1 year                                                            | 1,2,6                        |
| Construction site installations                            | 3 months                        | 3 months                                                          | 1,2                          |

## Reference Key

- 1 Particular attention must be taken to comply with SI 2002 No 2665 – Electricity, Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 (as amended).
- 2 Electricity at Work Regulations 1989, Regulation 4 & Memorandum of guidance (HSR25) published by the HSE.
- 3 BS 5266-1:2011 Emergency Lighting. Code of practice for the emergency lighting of premises.
- 4 Other intervals are recommended for testing operation of batteries and generators.
- 5 BS 5839-1: 2013 Fire Detection and fire alarm systems for building. Code of practice for design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of systems in non domestic premises.
- 6 Local Authority Conditions of Licence.
- 7 It is recommended that a caravan is inspected and tested every three years, reduced to every year if it is used frequently (see Regulation 721.514.1 and fig 721 - Instructions for electricity supply).

- 8 The person carrying out subsequent inspections may recommend that the interval between future inspections be increased or decreased as a result of the findings of their inspection.
- 9 Medical locations shall have their isolating transformer equipment inspected and tested for functionality as well as alarms etc; every third year the output leakage current of the IT isolating equipment shall be measured.
- 10 The Landlord & Tenant Act 1985 requires that properties under the Act have their services maintained. Periodic inspection and testing is the IET recognised method of demonstrating this.
- 11 The Management of Houses on Multiple Occupation (England) Regulations and the Managements of Houses on Multiple Occupation (Wales) Regulations.

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