

Electrical Note August 2023

Access Canberra Electrical Inspections team provide this guidance note to electricians in the ACT on some emerging issues affecting the electrical industry.

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Compliance



The Access Canberra Electrical Inspections team have seen an increase in electrical installations that have had major safety issues. In 2022 the inspection fail rate was 2.0% in 2023 it has increased to 3.5%

Electricians are advised that the Certificate of Electrical Safety (CES form) is a declaration that the electrician;

- a) Has tested the installation.
- b) Certifies the electrical installation as compliant to the Wiring Rules.

Access Canberra Electrical Inspections are not your Quality Assurance (QA) section. It is the electrician's responsibility to test the electrical installation and to ensure it is safe and compliant to the Wiring Rules.



A non-compliance that will lead to an electric shock or can lead to an electric shock in a short time or with one action, is a major safety issue. When identified by the electrical inspector, this may result in Demerit Points being issued to the electrician.

Some examples are, (but not limited to)

- Failure, to test an electrical installation and/or issue a CES.
- RCD not installed where required.
- PV panel cables not supported correctly.
- Cables not terminated at equipment, and direct contact with live parts.

When at 15 Demerit Points in 3 Years, your licence can be cancelled and/or suspended. We would rather work with the electrical industry and help you achieve compliance than issue Demerit Points, so please take care with your testing. AS/NZS 3000:2018 Section 8 and AS/NZS 3017 provide guidance to the testing required to certify an electrical installation.

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Recall – AEG 58V Ultimate Battery



ELECTRICAL PRODUCT SAFETY RECALL

AEG 58V Ultimate Battery (8Ah #A58BAT18) and (4Ah #A58BAT14).

The Serial number manufacturing code is located on the rear of the battery.

A serial number manufacturing code of H2022, I2022, J2022, 42 2022, 43 2022, 44 2022, 45 2022, 46 2022, 47 2022 or 48 2022 will appear on the back of the battery.

On one of the following codes:

A serial number manufacturing code of H2022, I2022, J2022, 42 2022, 43 2022, 44 2022, 45 2022, 46 2022, 47 2022 or 48 2022 will appear on the back of the battery.

IDENTIFICATION
The batteries were sold through Bunnings, Tool Kit Depot retailers or AEG Onsite Trade Solutions throughout Australia from 26th September 2022 to 5th January 2023, with a serial number manufacturing code of H2022, I2022, J2022, 42 2022, 43 2022, 44 2022, 45 2022, 46 2022, 47 2022 or 48 2022. These batteries may have been sold with tools in a combination kit format or sold separately.

For further details of the affected products please refer to the list on the [AEG website](#).

DEFECT
A component in the battery may fail causing the battery to overheat and ignite.

HAZARD
Risk of fire or burn injury.

ACTION REQUIRED
Consumers should stop using affected batteries immediately and remove them from the tool or charger that they may be in use with. Contact Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Limited by telephone or email for either a replacement or a refund.

For further information
Contact Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Limited's product service on 1300 859 017 (Free Call), or email customerservice@aegpowertools.com.au, or see the website: www.aegpowertools.com.au/support/safety

See www.recalls.gov.au for Australian Product Recall Information

Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Ltd — AEG 58V 8Ah Ultimate HD Battery # A58BAT18 and the AEG 58V 4Ah Ultimate Battery # A58BAT14

Product description

AEG batteries may have been sold with tools in a combination kit format or sold separately, with the following serial number manufacturing codes:

H2022, I2022, J2022, 42 2022, 43 2022, 44 2022, 45 2022, 46 2022, 47 2022, 48 2022

What are the defects?

A component in the battery may fail causing the battery to overheat and ignite.

What are the hazards?

Risk of fire or burn injury.

What should consumers do?

Consumers should stop using affected batteries immediately and remove them from the tool or charger that they may be in use with. Contact Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Limited by telephone or email for either a replacement or a refund.

For further information contact Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Limited's product service on 1300 859 017 (Free Call), or email customerservice@aegpowertools.com.au, or see the website: www.aegpowertools.com.au/support/safety



Additional Information

Supplier: [Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Ltd](#)

Traders who sold this product:

Bunnings

Tool Kit Depot stores

Online via AEG Onsite Trade Solutions

Dates available for sale: 25 Sep 2022 - 5 Jan 2023

ACCC Notice: [Techtronic Industries Australia Pty Ltd — AEG 58V 8Ah Ultimate HD Battery # A58BAT18 and the AEG 58V 4Ah Ultimate Battery # A58BAT14 | Product Safety Australia](#)

Recall Notice: [Recall advertisement_3045.pdf \(productsafety.gov.au\)](#)

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Heating and cooling systems - Environment Protection obligations



The use of electric air conditioning, evaporative coolers and hot water systems in ACT homes continues to accelerate driven by the ACT's transition to net zero emissions. This is being facilitated by the uptake of solar and battery technology and the ACT Government's commitment to remove natural gas from the network by 2045. This has seen a corresponding increase in the number of noise complaints associated with these systems.



The 'general environmental duty' under the *Environment Protection Act 1997* requires those installing heating and cooling systems to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise environmental harm. Excessive noise from these systems is deemed to cause environmental harm if it exceeds the noise zone standards detailed in the Environment Protection Regulation 2005.

To assist in complying with this duty, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) would like to remind you of the AIRAH's [Air Conditioning Best Practice Guideline for the ACT](#). All sales staff and installers should be aware of its content.

The [Snapshot: Installation of Air Conditioners, evaporative coolers and heat pumps](#) provides details of the noise zone standards and further information on the requirements for the installation of these systems in the ACT. We encourage you to distribute this information to your customers.



Another useful resource for you and your customers is the [AIRIAH Fair Air web site](#), which includes an online noise calculator to assist with locating heating and cooling systems.

For more information, visit the [Noise Portal](#) on the Access Canberra Website or contact the EPA by calling Access Canberra on 13 22 81.

Resources

https://www.airahfiles.org.au/Resources/Best_Practice_Guideline/RBPG_ACT_version_3-3.pdf

<https://files.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/files/noise-polution/Air+conditioners+September+2022.pdf>

<https://fairair.com.au/>

<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/noise-portal>

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Ceiling insulation



In April 2023, the ACT Government introduced a regulation under the *Residential Tenancies Act 1997* that requires all residential rental properties in the ACT to meet a new minimum energy efficiency standard for ceiling insulation by November 2026.

Ceiling insulation has been added as an eligible product for zero interest loans and rebates under the ACT Government Sustainable Household Scheme and the Home Energy Support Program.

The ACT Government is the biggest landlord in the ACT and is required to ensure all its 11,000 properties meet the insulation requirement. Estimates are 5,000-6,000 ACT Government housing properties that will need insulation upgraded or installed.

To deliver ceiling insulation under ACT Government programs, contracts or regulation, insulation installers must be trained and certified under the [Energy Efficiency Council \(EEC\) Professional Certification Framework](#).

The relevant training units are currently delivered in the ACT by the Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) and the Master Builders Association of the ACT (MBA). Installers can register their interest for the CIT course

at https://cit.edu.au/courses/trades/insulation_installation/SA-TS62, and the MBA course

at <https://mba.org.au/training/insulation-installation/>.

The ACT Government has issued an Advance Tender Notice for the supply and installation of ceiling insulation and electric appliances under the Vulnerable Household Energy Support Scheme. For more information, see the Advance Tender Notice [here](#).

If you have any questions about the Advance Tender Notice, please contact Tenders ACT at tendersact@act.gov.au or phone (02) 6207 7377. For all other questions, please do not hesitate to contact the ACT Government Home Energy Support Team at HomeEnergySupport@act.gov.au.

Certificate of Electrical Safety (CES)

Electricians and Insulation installers are advised that a CES form is required after the installation of thermal insulation and when part of the SHS, an addition declaration find [here](#) is required. [SHS guidelines \(act.gov.au\)](#)

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Compliance Statement for Main Switchboards 125Amps.



Electricians installing a Main Switchboard (MSB) with a rated current of 125Amps or greater need a Compliance Statement from the manufacturer that details the construction standard and rating of the MSB.

The Access Canberra electrical inspections team are having issues lately with electricians not having their Compliance Statement available at the time of inspection.

The Compliance Statement for **Main Switchboards** (MSB) with a rated current of 125Amps or greater, is required at the time of inspection and is to be provided by the switchboard manufacturer to the electrician. The form template is available from our website at;

[Access+Canberra+-+Fact+Sheet+-+Access+Canberra+Switchboards+61439+Compliance+Statement.pdf](#)

By having this completed form available for the electrical inspector, a lot of our questions around the MSB construction, compliance and ratings will all be available on site making it easier to test for compliance.

Note:

- MSB only, not applicable to Distribution Boards.
- This form is not required for a MSB rated less than 125A.

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Product Safety

If you Manufacture, Import, Distribute, Sell, or Install electrical products, this is recommended reading.

Kerryn O'Connor was just 35 years old when she was electrocuted by a submersible water pump, she was using in the backyard of her Townsville home.

The pump wasn't designed, manufactured, or tested to Australian standards and an internal, hidden fault caused the outer metal casing of the pump to become live, killing Kerryn instantly.

The QLD Electrical Safety Office and Kerryn's family are sharing their story to make sure it doesn't happen to anyone else. [Kerryn's story | Electrical Safety Office.](#)

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



The Access Canberra electrical inspections team have published Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and fact sheets on several subjects that are either a concern for compliance, or where the electrical industry can benefit from our assistance.

The FAQs can be found on our web site at: [Construction industry information \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/construction-information)

If you think additional content is required, send us an [email](#).

The FAQs will be updated as new questions come in and Australian Standards are updated.

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Email Address and Contact Information



All licensed construction professionals in the ACT are required to keep their details up-to-date, and to notify Access Canberra within seven (7) days of any change. Use this [link](#) to access the change of address form.

Not only do we use your email address to keep you up to date with emerging issues affecting the electrical industry, the

- Licensing team need it to send out your licence reminders.
- Electrical inspections team need it to send out inspections reminders and results.



Where you use a work email address, consider to also use a personal email address, for those times you are on leave or change employers and we need to let you know of an important issue.

Did you know Access Canberra provides a list of construction professionals on their website? Visit [Construction Professionals \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/construction-professionals)
<https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/construction-professionals>

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Electrical Inspector Advice, Interpretations & Defect Reviews



Advice

Electricians requiring advice on Wiring Rules interpretations should check out our FAQ page [Construction industry information \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/construction-industry-information-tab-electrician-notes) and should additional information be required they can contact the electrical inspections team by [email](mailto:Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au) at Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au.

To aid in providing consistent advice to the electrical industry, only the electrical inspections team manager will respond to your enquiry. If you pose a question on site to an electrical inspector, this must not be considered as binding advice but as the personal opinion of that inspector.

Defect Notice Questions & Review

If you receive a Defect Notice from an electrical inspector and have questions relating to it, we have the following process for reviewing it.

1. Call the inspector who issued the defect notice, their mobile number will be on the notice. Discuss your questions or concerns to see if a resolution is possible. If it is not possible to come to a consensus, ask for their team manager's contact details.
2. Call the team manager and discuss your concerns.
3. Should the team manager not be able to come to a consensus view then send an [email](mailto:Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au) to: **The Director of Electrical Inspections** at Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au with your concerns and request a review.

Extension of time

If you require an extension of time to make repairs the Defect Notice has identified, please [email](mailto:Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au) the Electrical team at with your request as soon as possible and before you receive the Final Notice.

Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au

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Contact Us



Access Canberra Electrical Inspections Team

Phone: 02 6207 7775 (8:30am to 4:30pm) Business Days

Email: Electrical.Inspections@act.gov.au

Web: <https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au>

Previous electrical notices are available at: [Construction industry information \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au/s/article/construction-industry-information-tab-electrician-notes)

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