



Safety Alert

Electrical Incident – Exposed Live Parts when Resetting Bell Control Units

A dangerous electrical event recently occurred when a school staff member removed the cover of a bell control unit in order to reset the system. Notices have been issued by the Department of Industrial Relations (Electrical Safety Office) to ensure a safe system of work is implemented when problems arise with this bell system.

Staff and others are at risk of electric shock when removing the cover of the Simplex 2399 Bell Control Unit. Live terminals are exposed when the cover of the unit is removed to reset the device. The risk of touching the live terminals and receiving an electric shock is significant.

School staff (e.g. non-electrical workers) are **not** licensed to perform work near live electrical parts on any item of electrical equipment. The manufacturer of the bell system has also advised that problems should be referred to a technician and the cover of the bell unit should **not be removed** by school staff.

Required Actions

1. Prohibit removal of covers of bell control units (Simplex or similar)
2. Place signage on the cover to advise that it should not be removed by staff
3. Inform staff of the risks and reasons for this safety precaution
4. Engage a technician to assess and repair problems with the bell system

More information

Electrical Safety Office – ph 1300 650 662 or <http://www.dir.qld.gov.au/electricalsafety/index.htm>

Electrical Safety Fact Sheets - <http://www.dir.qld.gov.au/publications/type/factsheets/index.htm>

Electrical Safety Legislation - <http://www.dir.qld.gov.au/electricalsafety/law/legislation/>