



The ELECTRICITY AT WORK REGULATIONS for the safe use of electricity and electrical appliances in the workplace and public places came into force in APRIL 1990. These Regulations place a legal onus on every employer or persons deemed responsible (the Duty Holder) by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) where portable electrical appliances are used to ensure that they are in a safe working order to prevent injury or death. Electrical appliances that do not belong to your company, but have been brought onto the premises by members of staff are also the responsibility of the Duty Holder under these regulations.

Portable electrical appliances are interpreted as any item which plugs into a socket, covering such items as kettles, white goods, vacuum-cleaners, power tools through to business machines such as computers, facsimile machines, etc. Three phase and fixed electrical machinery must also comply with these statutory regulations.

The guidelines stating the frequency of testing used by ElectrAtest are those issued by the Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE) and the HSE. Frequency of testing varies considerably due to the differing environments and the amount of use of the particular appliance. The onus however is on the Duty Holder to ensure that the tests are carried out at the correct frequency. We will make recommendations for you based on the above to satisfy the demands of the regulations. We feel that infrequently used appliances or those in a low risk environment only need testing once every twelve months. Appliances in public places, however, where the Duty Holder has no control over usage or the environment such as workshops, are classed as high risk and should be tested as frequently as every three months. The table of retest frequencies, based on HSE and IEE regulations and our own experience is reproduced below.

All appliances should be regularly maintained by inspection and/or testing and records of this inspection/testing must be kept. Our computerized system stores all records in a computer database for a minimum period of six years.

If the worst should happen and an accident occurs with an appliance that has not been inspected nor tested according to these regulations, the financial implications are enormous. It could result in serious injury to an employee or client with legal charges facing both the company and the individual responsible for Health and Safety implementation.

It is most imperative that we test all of your appliances, as it is very often the one put away in a cupboard that is defective. All supply leads are also tested to the requirements of the regulations. We strongly recommend that all your sockets are tested in conjunction with portable appliances. Our past experience has shown a considerable number of sockets wired incorrectly as regards polarity and earth continuity, this can compromise the electrical safety of an appliance, even though the appliance has been passed as safe. This service can be provided at a nominal additional cost, if carried out at the time of the appliance testing.

We are equipped with the latest high-tech, state of the art computerised testing equipment. Testing can be carried out on 110v, 240v and 415v appliances and machinery, extension leads and sockets.

Whilst testing, we will carry out minor repairs such as replacement of fuses, rewiring plugs, etc to achieve a pass status and make appliances safe.

On completion of inspection and testing, prior to the test engineer leaving your premises, you will be advised verbally of any appliances that failed. A printed report of these failed items (on red paper), Pass Certificates, and a complete Appliance Register will be sent to you by post. Alternatively, the data can be provided by email or disk format for use with our ElectrAvu PAT management software.

You will automatically be contacted prior to the next test date due.

We are able to arrange repairs for any appliance that fails testing. The appliance will be returned fully tested. In most circumstances, however, the original supplier of the appliance is best equipped to carry out any repairs or advise if replacement is necessary. All appliances must be re-tested after repairs are carried out and the certificate of failure should be signed to this effect.

The service we offer is a total management of the inspection, testing and certification of all electrical equipment on your premises. Our aim is to offer professional and consistently high standards at a reasonable cost. We feel sure you will find our service will give you great peace of mind in the knowledge that you have carried out all necessary appliance testing and are complying with all the relevant regulations for the safety of your employees and clients.

If you have any queries whatsoever, or need any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### Recommended Testing Frequencies

Type Of Business	Visual Inspection	Full Inspection And Testing
Construction	Daily	3 Months *
Industrial	Before Use	6 Months *
Commercial	3 to 6 Months	12 Months *
Premises Used By Public	3 to 6 Months	12 Months *
Equipment Hire	Before Issue and After Return	Before Issue *

\* Unless the earlier inspection indicates that immediate testing is necessary

These recommended testing frequencies are based on the IEE Code Of Practice, HSE Guidelines and our own experience.