



AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LTD

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Discipline

Engineering Standard - NSW

Category

Electrical

Title

Tools and Safety Equipment

Reference Number

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Document Control

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		Refer to Reference Number	T Moore	M Owens	Refer to minutes of meeting 24/01/05

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Document Approval

The technical content of this document has been approved by the relevant ARTC engineering authority and has also been endorsed by the ARTC Safety Committee.

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Note:

Personnel responsibilities referred to in this document will be altered in due course to reflect the ARTC organisational structure.

About This Standard

This publication specifies the systems that a contractor must have in place to ensure the integrity of tools and safety equipment.

Document History

Primary Source – RIC Standard EP 95 00 00 06 SP Version 1.0

List of Amendments –

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1. General

A contractor's Electrical Safety System shall include:

- specifications,
- procedures for periodic safety checks and recording of the results, and
- user instructions

for any (specialised) tools and safety equipment.

Tools and safety equipment which may be required for work on the RAC Electricity Distribution System includes, but is not limited to, that described in sections 3 to 7. The tools and safety equipment shall comply with the requirements stipulated in the Electricity Council of NSW publication "EC14 - Guide to Electrical Workers' Safety Equipment" which encompasses the purchasing, acceptance testing, periodicity of inspections, care and use of the tools and safety equipment. Deviations from the Guide must be based on sound design or reasoning and the outcome of worker safety must not be prejudiced.

It must be noted that these are typical OH&S requirements which are generally regulated by WorkCover and the Ministry of Utilities and Energy. ARTC will require evidence that the contractor has exercised due diligence in addressing these requirements.

2. Personnel Responsibilities

A contractor's Electrical Safety System shall clearly define personnel responsibilities with regard to tools and safety equipment, in particular to ensure that employees:

- use appropriate safety gear,
- ensure the safety gear is in good condition and in working order before use,
- use the safety gear in the proper manner,
- arrange for the replacement of defective safety gear, and
- do not use defective equipment if the defect renders the equipment dangerous.

3. Insulated Tools & Equipment

Appropriate tools and equipment, insulated for the voltage concerned, must be used for work on or adjacent to live exposed electrical equipment.

The tools and equipment must be inspected and/or tested before each use, and periodically tested in accordance with industry and manufacturer's standards.

4. Rescue Equipment

Rescue equipment must be provided as necessary for the rescue of persons from aloft, from live electrical switchboards and from confined spaces. The equipment must be purchased and maintained in accordance with industry standards.

No item shall be removed from a rescue kit or used for any purpose other than for rescuing persons or inspection of the items.

5. Safety Helmets

Safety helmets must be worn by persons when:

- working aloft on overhead lines, or
- in the immediate vicinity beneath persons working aloft, or
- where there may be danger from falling objects, or
- working in designated hard hat areas.

6. Safety Belts and Harnesses

Appropriate fall protection equipment must be worn by all persons working at heights. The equipment must be purchased and maintained in accordance with industry standards.

7. Clothing and Footwear

Appropriate clothing and footwear must be worn at all times. The clothing and footwear must be in a serviceable condition and free of any alteration from the original intended design.

The wearing or carrying of personal metal effects such as chains, watch bands, rings, keys, and tools, etc, should be discouraged as they may constitute a danger when working on or near live equipment. Unnecessary items should be removed prior to any work being carried out.