

PANEL RISK ASSESSMENTS AND THE COMPLIANCE GAP

RED AMBER GREEN

Specialising in electrical safety since 2011, Fixed Wire Inspection and Testing by Guardian Electrical is undertaken in line with the BS7671 standard; the specification used to determine the condition of an electrical installation.

Due to the limited scope within an EICR, testing is only assessed up to the incoming source of supply (main isolator) to a control panel, or MCC for machinery. This leaves a skilled or instructed person unable to determine the condition and safety of a panel before any potential access for maintenance or fault finding is required – This results in the Dutyholder unwittingly exposed should there be a breach of regulation.



Bridging the Gap

Panel risk assessments will bridge the unknown between the BS7671 and other British safety standards such as Electrical Equipment of Machines covered by the BSEN60204. Often panels are installed, modified, and replaced without the relevant documentation, and then passed to the Dutyholder, placing them at risk of non-compliance with EaWR 1989.

Without knowing what is in place, via an asset list or the hazards associated, a Dutyholder may struggle to demonstrate compliance with just a few of the regulations mentioned below -

- Regulation 4 (1) All systems shall (that means must) at all times be of such construction as to prevent (ASFARP) danger.
- Regulation 4 (2) As may be necessary to prevent danger, all systems shall be maintained so as to prevent (ASFARP) such danger.
- Regulation 6 Electrical equipment which may reasonably foreseeably be exposed
 to mechanical damage, environmental exposure, dust etc... must be of such
 construction or as necessary protected as to prevent (ASFARP) danger from
 such exposure.

Remember - In the eyes of the HSE, you, the Dutyholder, are guilty until you can robustly prove otherwise.

Dutyholder - Ask yourself.....

- In the event of a breach of EaWR 1989 relative to Panel Entry, would you have a robust defence in law to defend your process and system?
- Do you have a Safe System of Work for Panel Entry that is continually monitored, recorded, and archived?
- Are Isolators provided and in good working order?
- Are components within equipment IP2X rating compliant?



SAFE PEOPLE | **SAFE** PLACES | **SAFE** SYSTEMS



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SCAN QR CODE FOR INSTANT

> **ACCESS TO PRA**

REPORT

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The Guardian Solution

Program of Works

Guardian Electrical have developed a solution, which has been proven in the field with major clients, such as Tesco, Southampton Football Club, and Oxford Brookes University.

The PRA program of work includes

- 100% (ASFARP) Inspection of the Low Voltage Category 1 to 4 panels in accordance with your request, undertaken by our fully qualified electrical engineers.
- PRA Paperless Reports and all associated documentation uploaded to TraQ-it.
- ID labelling system on all panels inclusive of QR codes affixed to panels for instant site access to relevant records via TraQ-it.
- RED, AMBER and GREEN labelling system, that will enable instant visibility in identifying hazards associated with the panel, and any precautions that need to be taken upon entry.
- Continuous management by Guardian of panel updates/amends via TraQ-it.

Benefits

- Ability to demonstrate a time-saving and paperless safe system of work for entering panels, and in turn a proactive risk management approach to your insurers.
- 3rd party independent justification when requesting Capex Improvement, which in turn could reduce downtime when having panels replaced or improved.
- By utilising the 'version history functionality' within TraQit (i.e., recorded evidence of changes), Dutyholders will ensure they have a robust defence under Reg 29 of EaWR 1989, should the HSE come calling in the event of an accident.

What's next?

A free site survey to categorise the number and type of panels on site - this could be done via in-house maintenance staff with panel categorisation defined by Guardian.

TraQ-it demo of how site work undertaken, translates into a real-time dashboard of panel status.



