

LVAC Sockets in Transpower Substations

Description

- This is a reminder to avoid use of electrical sockets in substations that are in suspect or poor condition. Examples of poor condition of sockets are shown below (or refer to Condition Assessment (CA) rating in SMP 02.40.001).
- The existing routine maintenance of LVAC systems in substations only includes visual CA of switchboards and sockets (SMP 02.70.002). It does not include diagnostic and electrical testing of the sockets or consideration of decommissioning sockets that are rarely used.
- An update to SMP 02.70.002 will come into effect in June 2022. This is a significant update which will introduce electrical testing of LVAC sockets, an evaluation of whether the socket is required (based on its location), and an updated visual CA criteria.
- Please remain vigilant of sockets which may be in poor condition. If a socket is noticed to be in poor condition at any time, it should be labelled 'Do Not Use'. The next implementation of the updated SMP will determine if that socket can be repaired or if it should be decommissioned.

Photographs – Examples of LVAC Sockets in Poor Condition

Description	Photograph
<p>Pin Corrosion</p>	 <p>Visible "tide mark" – severe damage</p>
<p>Missing MCB Cover</p>	 <p>Missing cover may compromise protection (e.g. moisture ingress to RCDs)</p>

<p>Moisture Inside Socket Cover</p>			
	<p>Condensation</p>	<p>Moisture Ingress</p>	<p>Water Ingress</p>
<p>Damaged Socket Cover</p>			
	<p>Cracked Cover</p>	<p>Poor Sealant Condition (e.g. sticky gaskets)</p>	
<p>Old Sockets and Equipment</p>	 		
	<p>Old Scraping Earth Sockets</p>	<p>Old Earth Monitor / Filter Outlet</p>	

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