

Health & Safety Alert

Notice to all network stakeholders

Issue 2 | Rev. 1 | January 2025

LV Service Pillar Live Fixings

A repeat instance of an electric shock from fixings at a low voltage service pillar in the Powerco region has occurred.

The pillar was a plastic PVC service box located at the boundary of the customer's premises and adjacent to a walkway.

Fault staff identified the PVC lid was secured with two screws only, the screws were metal TEK style fixed around the mid-point of the service box lid. However, other screws, such as wood fixings, have been found to have been used in some locations. The TEK screw had been tightened to protrude into the internal area of the service box pressing against a cable inside. Contact created a pinhole on the cable, and the screw subsequently became live at phase voltage relative to earth potential.

Powerco reminds all contractors and employees that where the manufacturer's original fixings have been replaced, they must completely align with Powerco standard 393S025 corrective maintenance and replacement of low voltage service boxes.

This means where it is found Metal TEK screws or non-manufacture fixings are in use, they must be replaced as below

Affixing Screw Locations

Four (4) *Gyro Plastic Self Tapping* screws shall positioned at the outermost corners of the box as shown in the following diagram to safety secure the lid to the base.

Note: the use of metal screws for this task is **not permitted** for any reason as prescribed in 393S025 section **Error! Reference source not found.** *The Use Of Metal Screws Is Banned.*



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With Immediate effect where non-manufacturer metal screws are found on pillar boxes;

- It is mandatory that prior to any work on service pillars, all fixing are tested for stray voltages relative to the earth and between fixings screws
- It is mandatory that on completion of any work or inspection, all fixing strews are tested for stray voltages relative to the earth and between fixings screws. Even original manufacturer fixings

At all times, operational staff should adhere to the following four-point practice.

STOP	<i>Take time to think and carry out the necessary checks and testing before performing any operation.</i>
THINK	<i>Identify and think about the state of equipment and consequence of operation.</i>
CHECK	<i>Carry out the necessary checks.</i>
TEST	<i>Perform any necessary Testing.</i>

Please ensure this safety notice is discussed and brought to the attention of all operational staff immediately.

Please distribute to all relevant staff immediately

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