



Extension lead run under door frames

What happened?

Whilst undertaking a site visit, it was noticed that extension leads were run between the gap of a newly constructed switchrooms building personal door and the floor plate.

The action of running leads between gaps under the floor or through a door opening has resulted in personal harm previously.

This safety alert is to remind all staff the hazards of running extension or any other lead carrying that may carry voltage or current through doors or openings where they could be closed on the leads resulting in mechanical damage

It should never be considered safe to run extension leads or cables through doorways



Previous incident where personal injury was sustained

In December 2013 an employee received a 230V shock because of a lead that sustained mechanical damage on the phase (live) conductor livening a metal door that the employee bridged to earth via his upper torso.

The incident alert circulated has been included with this publication for background.

Immediate actions

Work was stopped and all extension leads were re-routed through other accessways (IE core drilled holes and floor openings) to avoid running through accessways that could cause mechanical damage.

Continue with the priority of getting the LVAC permanently commissioned, so the external lifeguard units are no longer required

Recommendations

Where there is the requirement to run extension or test leads between rooms including in/out of a building, a suitable route must be established including a risk assessment undertaken, to ensure the leads can be run in such a way as not to sustain mechanical damage.

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