



GRŴP IECHYD A DIOGELWCH GOGLEDD-ORLLEWIN CYMRU NORTH WEST WALES HEALTH & SAFETY GROUP

Electrical Safety

*Safety does not occur by accident
(Author unknown)*

Wednesday 14th March 2012 – 2pm – 4pm

“Electrical Safety”

Ray Davies C Eng, MIET

HM Specialist Inspector (Electrical Engineering)

Electricity can kill

*The door to safety swings on the hinges of common sense
(Author unknown)*

Main Lecture Theatre, Ground Floor, School of Electronic Engineering, Dean Street, Bangor LL57 1UT

THE SPEAKER

Ray started his electrical career with the Steel Company of Wales – Port Talbot as an electrical apprentice in 1963. He now holds an Honours Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Business Administration

His electrical experience spans many countries including England, Zambia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa with varied roles from surveyor, engineer, project manager to consultant and trainer.

Ray returned to Wales in 2009 and joined the HSE as a HM Specialist Inspector – Electrical Engineering. He is currently the HSE discipline electrical specialist for Wales and the South West. This job involves investigating accidents and fatalities with an electrical connection.

THE TALK

Each year about 1000 incidents at work involving electric shock or burns are reported, and around 30 of these incidents are fatal.

The presentation starts with setting the scene by discussing the safety triangle and who is most at risk. The terms electric shock and electrocution are discussed and explored, together with some examples of incidents in general terms.

Electrical Safety can mean different things to different people; hence, it is important to explore some of the aspects.

A typical response after an incident may be – “we only employ competent people”. However, we need think about what can go

wrong and how can we protect ourselves from over confidence and hence complacency.

In general, terms electrical safety can be concerned with aspects such as those listed below, and these terms are explored:

- Safety in design, installation, and verification of an electrical installation.
- Competence of personnel.
- Safe systems of work including safe isolation procedures.
- Adherence to safe working practice including the role of management.

Why re-invent the wheel, the HSE publishes electrical safety guidance examples include:

- The HSE website
- Electricity at Work – HSG 85
- Memorandum of Guidance on the Electricity at Work regulations 1989 (HSR25)
- Keeping Electrical Switchgear Safe (HSG 230)
- Avoidance of danger from overhead power lines (GS6)
- Working Safely Near Overhead Power Lines (AIS 8).

Other topics discussed include:

- What do we mean by the term Reasonably Practicable?
- The HM Inspectors powers
- Some recent statistics
- Some typical causes of serious incidents

Finally, the presentation explores what we can do to make a difference, with audience participation encouraged.

Refreshments will be provided from 2.00pm.
Talk starts at 2.15pm.



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VENUE

The Main Lecture Theatre is on the ground floor of Bangor University's School of Electronic Engineering Building (*this building may also be referred to as 'Informatics'*), which is located on Dean Street in Bangor LL57 1UT. The Lecture room is accessible via the main entrance and then follow the directional signs on display.

The University is signposted from the A5/55 Expressway. A location map for the School of Electronic Engineering building can be found at: <http://www.eng.bangor.ac.uk/LocationMap.pdf> position 74.

CAR PARKING

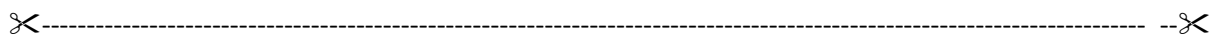
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FURTHER INFORMATION

For further Information on the Group please contact 'Health and Safety Services', Bangor University, Penbre, College Road, Bangor, LL572DG Tel 01248 383847, email: l.fowlie@bangor.ac.uk or gareth.w.jones@bangor.ac.uk or visit the Website at <http://hsgroup.bangor.ac.uk>



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DYDDIADAU/DATES: 14/03/2012

A warm welcome is extended to all Members and non-members with an interest in this subject.