081: Temporary Power

Facilitator duties for this session:

Review AS 3012 or relevant state requirements and be prepared to answer questions about it.

What this Safety Talk covers:

What the worker needs to know to prevent fire and shock when using temporary power.

Reference Material:

For further information refer to:

- Relevant State Legislation
- Company Policy Statement
- Company Work Method Statement
- Employee Guide to Safety

Advantages

Temporary power is any power wiring supplied with the intention of removal in the near future, regardless of the wiring method used.

Because this wiring is temporary its installation is treated differently by Australian Standards.

Limitations

AS 3012 provides the limitations. Some of them are:

- You can't install outlets on temporary lighting circuits.
- You must have a suitable disconnecting means (switches or plug connectors) for each circuit.
- You must remove temporary wiring when you are done with the tasks that required having it in place.
- All lamps for general illumination must have protection from accidental contact or breakage. A suitable fixture or lampholder with a guard provides this protection.
- You must follow the same current capacity, overload protection, support, and mechanical protection rules as in AS 3000. With portable cords, additional mechanical protection requirements apply.

Requirements for portable cords and cable assemblies

Avoid sharp corners and projections.

When routing through doorways or other pinch points, provide protection such as a portable cord guard.

If terminating (rather than plugging in) the cord at a device, use the appropriate fittings.

Use supports to prevent damage. These supports can be staples, cable ties, straps, or similar fittings installed in a way that doesn't pinch the cord.

When running cord overhead, consider using a stand made for that purpose. Do not use vegetation to support overhead runs. Do not use steel wire to hang cords.

Other requirements for portable cords and cable assemblies

Use an industrial grade or contractor grade portable cord. Compared to "regular" cords, these have superior insulating ability and flexibility.

Ensure portable cords have the right jacket material for the environment. For example, only certain jacket materials are oil resistant.

Never splice a portable cord or tape over an abrasion. Once the jacket integrity is lost, so is the safety of the cord.

Review and Discussion

What is temporary wiring vs. permanent wiring?

What is the Australian Standard governing temporary wiring?

When should you test an RCD?

What are some requirements for portable cords?

What should you do if a given plug won't mate to a receptacle?

If you can't find a free outlet on a power box, don't just unplug something you think isn't in use. In addition to being rude, this action interrupts someone else's work and may cause unnecessary trips up and down ladders.

Trace the cord to its point of use, and negotiate some time on that particular outlet.

Residual Current Devices [RCD]

All temporary circuits must be Residual Current Device [RCD] protected.

If you don't know whether the outlet is RCD protected and you don't have an assured earthing program, use a plug-in device with RCD protection.

Test each RCD device prior to first use on each shift.

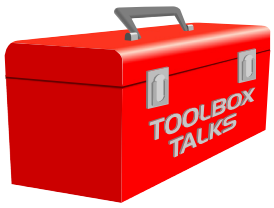
Earthing

Ensure equipment earthing conductors are continuous and each equipment earthing conductor is attached to its proper terminal.

Test each outlet and attachment plug for correct attachment of the equipment earthing conductor.

Record the results of these tests, and provide the results to your supervisor or other company-designated person. Refer to AS 3012 test intervals.

Notes:



081: Temporary Power Review and Assessment

Participant Name:_____

Please circle the correct answer to the following questions.

Temporary power is any power wiring supplied with the intention of removal in the future, regardless of the method used.	True	False
Because this wiring is temporary its installation is treated differently by Australian Standards.	True	False
You do not need to remove temporary wiring when you are done with the tasks that required having it in place.	True	False
All lamps for general illumination must have protection from accidental contact or breakage.	True	False
When running cord overhead, consider using a stand made for that purpose. Do not use vegetation to support overhead runs.	True	False
Always use steel wire to hang cords.	True	False
All temporary circuits must be RCD protected.	True	False
Use an industrial grade or contractor grade portable cord.	True	False
Ensure equipment earthing conductors are continuous and each equipment earthing conductor is attached to its proper terminal.	True	False
If you don't know whether the outlet is RCD protected and you don't have an assured earthing program, use a plug-in device with RCD protection.	True	False

Participants Signature:_____ **Date:**_____

Toolbox Talks Register

1. TOOLBOX TALK NUMBER / DETAILS

081: Temporary Power

Date: _____

Session Leader / Trainer Name: _____

Time Commenced: _____ Time Completed: _____

Site / Project Location: _____

2. PARTICIPANTS PRESENT

Name	Signature

3. ISSUES ARISING FROM TALK

Session Leaders Sign Off: _____