

PERMISSION FROM AN AUTHORITATIVE FIGURE

EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(3) Work on or near electrical equipment must not give rise to danger. You cannot safely isolate without coordinating with the person in control of the equipment.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 14 No person shall work on live conductors unless justified. To make something dead you must have control of it, control requires permission from the duty holder.

MHSWR 1999 Regulation 5 Requires effective planning, organisation and control. You cannot isolate equipment without agreement from the responsible person.

HSG85 — Explicitly states: "Before isolating equipment, you should obtain permission from the person in charge of the equipment or process."

Civil & Criminal Liability If you isolate without permission and someone is injured, a process is interrupted, a safety system is disabled, or a business suffers loss, you are personally liable under EAWR, HSWA 1974, PUWER and MHSWR.

IDENTIFY ALL SOURCES OF SUPPLY

EAWR 1989 Regulation 12 Suitable means must be available for cutting off the supply of electrical energy. "Supply" means every supply — not just the DNO incoming supply.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 13 Adequate precautions must be taken to prevent equipment that has been made dead from becoming electrically charged during work. If a PV inverter, UPS, battery, generator or EV charger can re-energise the circuit you have NOT taken adequate precautions and you are breaking the law.

PUWER 1998 Regulation 19 Every employer shall ensure work equipment is provided with suitable means to isolate it from ALL its sources of energy. ALL means ALL, electrical, stored electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic.

MHSWR 1999 Regulation 3 You must identify all hazards before work begins. A PV inverter back-feeding a circuit is a hazard. A UPS keeping a circuit live is a hazard. A battery storage system is a hazard. If you don't identify them your risk assessment is not suitable and sufficient.

BS 7671 Sections 551, 712, 722 — These sections specifically cover generators, PV systems, EV charging and energy storage systems, all requiring isolation of every source before work begins.

HSG85 States explicitly: "Before starting work, you must identify all possible sources of electrical energy. This includes standby supplies, generators, UPS systems, and stored energy."

STEP 1 - PERMISSION & PLANNING

Get permission from an authoritative figure, identify ALL sources of supply (primary, secondary, tertiary — PV, UPS, batteries, generators, EV chargers), complete your Risk Assessment, and confirm whether a Permit to Work is required.

THE 5 EMPLOYEES RULE — COMMONLY MISUNDERSTOOD

MHSWR 1999 states that if you have 5 or more employees you must **record** the significant findings in writing.

This leads many sole traders to believe that if they have fewer than 5 employees they do not need a written risk assessment. This is wrong for two reasons:

Reason 1 - The duty to actually carry out the assessment exists regardless of how many employees you have. The 5 employee threshold only affects the recording requirement, not the assessment requirement itself.

Reason 2 - In electrical work specifically, HSE guidance and the practical reality of an investigation or prosecution means that an unwritten risk assessment is effectively no risk assessment at all. If you cannot demonstrate you assessed the risk, in the eyes of the law you did not.

WHY THIS MATTERS IN PRACTICE

If you are a sole trader and an incident occurs, the HSE will not ask whether you had 5 employees. They will ask:

- Did you identify the hazards?
- Did you assess the risks?
- Did you put controls in place?
- Was your system of work safe?

If you cannot answer yes to all of those you have breached Regulation 3 regardless of how many people work for you.

A Permit to Work is a formal documented safe system of work used to control high risk activities where the consequences of failure are severe or irreversible.

When it IS required:

- More than one person is involved in the isolation
- Shift handovers mean someone else takes over control
- Confined space entry is required. Confined Spaces Regulations 1997 and HSE ACOP L101 make this effectively mandatory
- Hot work near flammable materials is taking place. HSG250 states this must always be PTW controlled
- Simultaneous operations are occurring
- The complexity of the system means one person cannot personally maintain control of all isolations
- The site is a major hazard site under COMAH 2015

When it is NOT required:

- You are the only person involved
- The isolation is simple and locally controlled
- No high hazard processes are present
- No shift handovers or second party authorisation is needed
- The work can be safely managed with a risk assessment and safe isolation procedure alone

The legal framework that underpins it:

- HSWA 1974 - requires safe systems of work
- MHSWR 1999 - high risk findings in a risk assessment demand formal controls
- EAWR 1989 - complex electrical work must be demonstrably controlled
- Confined Spaces Regulations 1997 - PTW effectively mandatory for confined space entry
- HSG250 - PTW mandatory for hot work
- COMAH 2015 - mandatory on major hazard sites

LOCATE ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SUPPLIES

EAWR 1989 Reg 12 - "Supply" means every supply feeding the installation, not just the DNO head. A PV array, UPS, battery storage, generator, or EV charger are all supplies. If you have not located them, you cannot isolate them.

EAWR 1989 Reg 13 - You cannot take adequate precautions against a supply you have not found. An unfound secondary supply is a live source waiting to re-energise the distribution system you believe to be dead.

MHSWR 1999 Reg 3 - A secondary or tertiary supply that has not been identified is an unassessed hazard. An unassessed hazard means your risk assessment is not suitable and sufficient for this task.

PUWER 1998 Reg 19 - ALL sources of energy must be located before isolation can be considered complete. Electrical, stored electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, ALL means ALL.

BS 7671 S537, 551, 712, 722 - Requires isolation from every source that can energise the installation. Covers generators, PV systems, EV charging, and energy storage systems.

HSG85 - Before starting work you must identify all possible sources of electrical energy including standby supplies, generators, UPS systems, and stored energy. Failure to do so means the isolation is incomplete regardless of what else you have done.

LOCK OFF ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SUPPLIES

EAWR 1989 Regulation 12 - The means of cutting off supply must be suitable. Switching something off without securing it against re-energisation is not a suitable means of isolation. Anyone could walk past and switch it back on. The isolation is only complete when it is secured.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 13 - The precautions taken must be adequate to prevent the equipment from becoming electrically charged during work. Switching off without locking off does not constitute an adequate precaution. The standard requires that re-energisation is physically prevented, not just that someone has turned a switch.

HSG85 - States that isolation must be secured against inadvertent or unauthorised re-energisation. This means physical lockout of every isolating device on every supply feeding the circuit or equipment being worked on.

BS 7671 Section 537.2 - Requires that means of isolation shall be provided for every circuit and for the "installation as a whole" and that those means shall be capable of being secured in the open position. Capable of being secured means designed and used with a physical locking device.

STEP 2 – ISOLATE AND LOCK OFF ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SUPPLIES

LOCATE ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SUPPLIES AND
LOCK OFF ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY SUPPLIES, FIT
PADLOCKS, RETAIN KEYS AND FIT WARNING NOTICES

There is no single piece of UK legislation that says the words "you must use a padlock." What exists is a combination of BS 7671 requiring lockable isolation, EAWR requiring adequate precautions against re-energisation, and HSG85 naming padlocks and lockout devices as the accepted method of satisfying those requirements. Together they create a clear legal expectation that padlocks are used, even though no single Act uses that word explicitly.

A safety padlock — Must be a dedicated safety padlock, not a "general purpose padlock". Safety padlocks are:

- Keyed differently from every other padlock on site, one key per lock, no master key
- Brightly coloured and clearly identifiable as a safety device
- Rated for the environment they are used in
- Engraved or tagged with the name of the key holder

The key must be retained personally by the individual doing the work. It must not be left in the lock, handed to a supervisor, or placed on a keyboard.

The physical possession of that key by the person at risk is the entire point of the system.

GROUP ISOLATIONS

Where more than one person is working on the same isolated system a hasp is fitted to the isolation point. Each individual fits their own padlock to the hasp and retains their own key. The isolation cannot be removed until every individual has removed their own padlock. No single person, including a supervisor or manager, can remove the isolation while another person's padlock remains in place.

This is the only legally defensible method of group isolation under EAWR Regulation 13 and HSG85.

FIT WARNING NOTICES

EAWR 1989 Regulation 13 - Adequate precautions to prevent re-energisation include not only physical lockout but also clear communication that the equipment is isolated and must not be operated. A warning notice is that communication made permanent and visible at the point of isolation.

HSWA 1974 Section 2 - Requires employers to provide safe systems of work and to provide such information, instruction, and supervision as is necessary to ensure the health and safety of employees. A warning notice is part of that information. It tells anyone approaching the isolated equipment exactly what is happening and exactly what they must not do.

BS 7671 Section 537 - Requires that suitable notices are fitted at the point of isolation to warn against re-energisation. The notice must make clear that the equipment is isolated, that work is in progress, and that the isolation must not be disturbed.

HSG85 - Confirms that warning notices should be placed at every point of isolation including at the distribution board, at any secondary or tertiary isolator, and at the main incoming supply where relevant. The notice should identify who has isolated the equipment and how they can be contacted.

PUWER

PUWER 1998 Regulation 4 - Work equipment must be suitable for the purpose for which it is used. A voltage indicator that has not been inspected before use cannot be confirmed as suitable. If it is faulty and fails to detect voltage, the consequences are fatal.

PUWER 1998 Regulation 5 - Work equipment must be maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order, and in good repair. This places a positive duty on the user to inspect equipment before use, not just to assume it is working. (and look after it)

PUWER 1998 Regulation 6 - Where inspection is necessary to ensure equipment remains safe, that inspection must be carried out at suitable intervals and by a competent person. For voltage indicators this means a visual and functional check before every use.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(1) - All systems "shall at all times" be of such construction as to prevent danger. Test equipment that has not been inspected is a system that cannot be confirmed as safe.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 10 - Every employer shall ensure that all persons working on electrical equipment are competent to prevent danger. Using uninspected test equipment is not competent practice.

PROVING ON A KNOWN LIVE SOURCE

Before approaching the circuit you intend to test, identify a known live source on the same installation, typically a socket outlet OR a live cable.

- Hold the tip of the **non-contact voltage indicator** close to the known live source without making physical contact. For a socket outlet insert your socket adapter and place the tip in the live terminal. Flick the switch on the socket. The indicator must illuminate and/or sound. If it does not, the indicator is faulty. Remove it from service and obtain a working tester.
- For a cable hold the tip against the outer sheath. Turn appliance on and off. The indicator must illuminate and/or sound. If it does not, the indicator is faulty. Remove it from service and obtain a working tester.
- Insert the probe of the **contact voltage indicator** into the same socket adapter and touch it on the terminal. The indicator must illuminate and/or sound on each test. If it does not, the indicator is faulty. Remove it from service and obtain a working tester.
- Both indicators have now been proved live on the same known source. You can proceed to test the circuit you intend to isolate. Use the non-contact indicator to perform your initial checks on the main incoming head and the non-contact used after proving there is current on the main earth with the clamp ammeter.
- Immediately after all testing is complete return to the same known live source and repeat steps above for both indicators.
- Both must again illuminate and/or sound on each test. If both indicators prove live, you can be confident both were functioning correctly throughout, your declaration of dead is valid. If either indicator fails to prove live stop immediately.
- You cannot confirm the circuit is dead. Remove the faulty indicator from service, obtain a working tester, and restart the entire correct isolation process.

STEP 3 - CHECK & PROVE YOUR TEST EQUIPMENT

Inspect all test equipment per **PUWER** and **GS38**. Prove your voltage indicators, **NON-CONTACT** and **CONTACT voltage indicators** are working on a known live source, proving unit before and after use. **MFTs** must NOT be used to prove dead.

PROVING UNITS

A proving unit is a small battery powered device that generates a known safe voltage specifically designed to prove that a voltage indicator is functioning correctly before and after use. It removes the need to find a known live source on site to prove the tester against, which may not always be accessible or safe to use.

GS38 recognises proving units as the accepted method of satisfying the prove-test-prove requirement. The proving unit itself must also be checked before use to confirm the battery is functional and the unit is producing its rated output. A proving unit with a flat or failing battery will not provide a reliable confirmation that the tester is working.

A proving unit does not replace competence. It confirms the instrument is functioning. The competence of the person using it determines whether the correct test points are selected, the correct sequence is followed, and the results are correctly interpreted.

GS38 is the HSE's guidance document specifically covering electrical test equipment used by electricians. It is the accepted standard for how PUWER and EAWR duties are discharged in relation to test instruments. It requires:

Fused leads - Test leads must be fitted with fuses or current limiting resistors appropriate to the equipment being tested. Unfused leads can carry fault current directly to the user.

Finger guards - Probes must have finger guards or shrouding to prevent accidental contact with live parts during testing.

Insulation - Lead insulation must be inspected for cuts, cracks, burns, or deterioration before every use. Damaged insulation must be removed from service immediately.

Probe tip exposure - Exposed metal on probe tips must not exceed 4mm for general use or 2mm in high-risk environments. This limits the risk of accidental bridging between conductors.

Non-contact voltage indicators - Must be proved on a known live source or proving unit before and after use. Standard non-contact testers detect from 90V to 1000V. Dual range testers detect from 12V to 1000V. You must know which type you are using as a standard tester will not detect voltages below 90V and will give a false negative reading in those circumstances. A non-contact indicator is never used alone to prove dead, it is a supplementary check only.

Contact two pole voltage indicators - GS38 paragraph 19 states explicitly that a two-pole contact voltage indicator or a test lamp must be used to prove dead. Not a multimeter. Not an MFT. A dedicated two pole contact voltage indicator proved on a known live source or proving unit before and after every test.

EN 61801-4 - The DNO's own standard. Cut-outs must be safe, free from overheating and free from tracking. Any cut-out presenting danger must be made safe immediately. Responsibility sits with the DNO. Call 105 if discovered.

ESQR 2002 Regulations 24 & 25 - The DNO must ensure their equipment is constructed, installed, and maintained so as to prevent danger. A cut-out that is tracking or overheating is presenting danger and the DNO is legally required to attend and make it safe.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(1) - All electrical systems must at all times be constructed to prevent danger. A tracking cut-out is in direct breach of this regulation.

HSWA 1974 Section 3 - The DNO has a duty to ensure that persons not in their employment, including electricians working at the origin of the installation, are not exposed to risk. A deteriorating cut-out that you encounter on site is a breach of this duty.

WHAT IS TRACKING

Tracking is a form of electrical degradation that occurs on the surface of insulating materials. Over time, contamination, moisture, heat, and age cause the surface of an insulator to become progressively more conductive. This creates a low resistance path across the surface of the material that would not normally conduct electricity. On DNO equipment, primarily the service head, cut-out, and meter tails, tracking typically appears as a dark carbon trail or burn mark across the surface of the plastic casing. It is caused by repeated small electrical discharges across the contaminated surface which carbonise the material and make it increasingly conductive over time. Left unaddressed, tracking will worsen, generate heat, and can ultimately cause arcing, fire, or complete failure of the equipment.

STEP 4 - CHECK THE MAIN HEAD & EARTH CONDUCTOR

Use a contact voltage indicator on the main incoming head to check for tracking. Place a CT clamp ammeter on the main earth cable. Any reading above 15mA is potentially dangerous. Check for voltage with a non-contact indicator on the main earth conductor. Check any metallic surfaces with a contact voltage indicator. If voltage is detected, investigate the source whether internal or a network fault - alter your RAMS you are now fault finding.

MHSWR 1999 Regulation 3 - Requires a suitable and sufficient risk assessment for the work being carried out. If the work changes the risk assessment must be reviewed and updated to reflect the new hazards. Continuing to work under a risk assessment that does not cover the actual activity being undertaken is a direct breach of Regulation 3.

MHSWR 1999 Regulation 3(3) - Requires that the risk assessment is reviewed if there is reason to suspect it is no longer valid. Discovering unexpected voltage or stray current on the installation is precisely that reason. The discovery of a fault is a trigger event that legally requires you to stop, review, and update your assessment before continuing.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(3) - Work must be carried out in such a manner as not to give rise to danger. Fault finding on a live installation with stray earth current present is inherently more dangerous than the planned work. Proceeding without updating your risk assessment means you cannot demonstrate that adequate precautions have been identified and put in place for the actual conditions you are working in.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 16 - Defines danger as risk of injury from electrical energy. An installation with stray current and unknown fault paths meets that definition. Working on it without a revised risk assessment means working in a situation of defined danger without adequate precautions.

HSWA 1974 Section 2 - Requires employers and self-employed persons to provide safe systems of work. A safe system of work must be appropriate for the actual work being done. When the work changes the safe system must change with it.

IEC 60479 - The HSE's referenced standard for the physiological effects of electrical current. It defines current thresholds for muscular contraction, respiratory paralysis, and ventricular fibrillation, and establishes how body impedance varies with age, moisture, contact area, and pressure. This is the scientific basis for the 15mA threshold.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(1) - All electrical systems must be constructed and maintained to prevent danger. Stray earth current above 15mA on accessible metalwork is a system presenting danger and is a direct breach of this regulation.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 16 - Defines danger as risk of injury from electrical energy. Current above 15mA on accessible metalwork meets that definition.

HSWA 1974 Sections 2 & 3 - Employers and self-employed persons must ensure members of the public, children, and vulnerable individuals are not exposed to risk. A property with stray earth current on accessible metalwork and pipework is in direct breach of this duty.

MHSWR 1999 Regulation 3 - Where children or older persons are present the risk assessment must account for their lower impedance and lower current thresholds. Failing to do so means the risk assessment is not suitable and sufficient.

BS 7671 - Requires protective measures to prevent electric shock under normal and fault conditions. Stray current above 15mA on the main earth conductor is a fault condition that must be investigated and resolved before the installation is used.

IEC 60479-1 - A STANDARD BUILT FOR A 70KG ADULT

IEC 60479-1 bases every current zone and impedance value on a reference healthy adult of approximately 70kg. Children and older people do not appear as defined categories anywhere in the standard's zone thresholds. This is a significant omission given that both groups have measurably lower body impedance than the reference adult and are therefore at greater risk at the same voltage and current levels.

The standard itself acknowledges in its notes and annexes that impedance varies with age, body mass, skin thickness, moisture, contact area, pressure, and voltage level, yet it does not translate this acknowledgement into separate protection thresholds for vulnerable individuals. Children may have 20 to 40 percent lower impedance than the reference adult. Older adults may have 30 to 50 percent lower impedance.

- At 500 ohms - easily achieved by an older person grabbing pipework with a warm damp hand, only 7.5V is required to drive 15mA through the body.
- A child with a damp finger touch on metalwork at 10V can experience currents approaching 10mA, already at the boundary of Zone 2 and Zone 3.

The 15mA threshold in this procedure is therefore not a safe threshold for everyone on the premises. It is the boundary at which effects become potentially irreversible for a healthy reference adult. For children and older people that boundary is lower. The standard knows this. It simply does not say clearly enough.

A drastic drop in current when the main switch is opened confirms the fault is internal, leakage current being driven by this property's own supply finding its way onto the earth conductor through deteriorated insulation, faulty equipment, or a wiring defect somewhere within the installation.

- Turn the main switch back on,
- replace the CT clamp ammeter on the main earth conductor, and
- begin switching OCPDs back on one at a time.

When the ammeter reading spikes back to your recorded value, you have found the circuit containing the fault.

Switch it off immediately.

Lock off that OCPD, investigate, locate, and rectify. The current on the main earth conductor must return to an acceptable level before any further work proceeds.

STEP 5 - INVESTIGATE AND RESOLVE ANY FAULTS FOUND upon the main switch Opening:

- A slight reduction in current will be the properties earth leakage disappearing
- If the current disappears drastically then this property likely has an **INTERNAL FAULT** driven by internal loading
- If the current does not change then there is an external fault. Being driven by external loads
- High Net currents - The 15 mA danger threshold comes from IEC/BS EN 60479-1 (effects of electric current on the human body).

REPORT AND LOG YOUR FINDINGS WITH THE DNO ON 105 AND YOUR CPS PROVIDER IF EXTERNAL

REPORT AND LOG YOUR FINDINGS WITH THE DNO ON 105 AND YOUR CPS PROVIDER

Once a dangerous condition is identified you have a legal and professional duty to report and document it immediately. Call **105** and report the address, your current and voltage readings and whether vulnerable persons are present. The DNO is legally required under ESQCR 2002 Regulations 24 and 25 to attend and make their equipment safe. Your call creates a formal record that protects you if the situation escalates.

Contact your **CPS provider** - Failing to report a dangerous condition to your scheme is a conduct issue that could affect your registration. Reporting it demonstrates you identified the hazard and acted correctly.

Legally - EAWR 1989 Regulation 4(3) requires work to be carried out without giving rise to danger. HSWA 1974 Sections 2 and 3 require you to ensure others are not exposed to risk. MHSWR 1999 Regulation 3 requires significant findings to be recorded. Your log must include the date and time, all readings taken, the 105 reference number, your CPS contact details, what isolations were left in place and what instructions were given to the client. Without that record you have no evidence you found the fault, reported it correctly, and acted within your legal duties.

If the current on the main earth conductor does not change when the main switch is opened the property's installation is contributing nothing to the reading. The current is not being driven by anything within this property.

It is being driven entirely by external network conditions, typically a broken or high impedance neutral on the distribution network causing diverted neutral current to use the earth conductor as an alternative return path or network loading from neighbouring properties sharing the same neutral.

Opening this property's main switch has no effect because the source of the current is outside and upstream of it.

This is an external fault and it is the DNO's legal responsibility under ESQCR 2002 Regulations 24 and 25. Call 105 immediately, report the current reading, the address, and the fact that the reading did not change when the main switch was opened. Do not proceed with any work on the installation until the DNO has attended and resolved the network fault. Do not alter or touch any bonding conductors – just leave it and let the DNO fix their fault.

Why the 15mA threshold matters here

The 15mA danger threshold is established by IEC/BS EN 60479-1, the international standard on the effects of electric current on the human body. It defines 15mA as the boundary at which current transitions from involuntary reaction to sustained muscular contraction, the point at which a person may be unable to release their grip on an energised surface. For children and older people whose body impedance is significantly lower than the "reference adult" this threshold is reached at lower voltages and under less severe contact conditions. Any current at or above 15mA on the main earth conductor means accessible metalwork and bonded pipework within the property may be at a voltage capable of driving that current through a vulnerable person. That is a dangerous condition regardless of whether the source is internal or external and it must be resolved before the installation is used.

At this point in the procedure you have either confirmed there is no dangerous current present on the main earth conductor, identified and rectified an internal fault, or reported an external network fault to the DNO and received confirmation that it has been resolved. The installation is no longer presenting the danger that was identified. The condition that required investigation has been alleviated or is now being managed by the appropriate responsible party.

You may now return to your original task. Your isolations remain in place. Your lock-off devices and padlocks are still fitted. Your warning notices are still displayed. Nothing about the isolation has changed during the investigation process.

What has changed is that you now have a complete picture of the electrical environment you are working in and you have confirmed that no dangerous stray current remains on the earthed metalwork of the installation. Reconfirm your isolations are intact, re-prove both your non-contact and contact voltage indicators on a known live source, and proceed to prove dead at the point of work following the correct test sequence for the system you are working on.

STEP 6 - PROVE DEAD AT THE POINT OF WORK

With the presence of DNC current alleviated or managed you can proceed to complete your original task.

Test all conductors at the locked-off OCPD or isolated main switch in the correct order..

SINGLE PHASE SUPPLIES

- Line to Neutral
- Line to Earth
- Neutral to Earth

3 PHASE SUPPLIES

- Neutral to Line 1
- Neutral to Line 2
- Neutral to Line 3
- Earth to Line 1
- Earth to Line 2
- Earth to Line 3
- Line 1 to Line 2
- Line 1 to Line 3
- Line 2 to Line 3
- Neutral to Earth

RECHECK EQUIPMENT & CONFIRM ISOLATION

You have completed all conductor tests at the point of work and no voltage has been detected.

Before you can legally and practically declare the system dead and begin work there is one final obligation, you must re-prove your voltage indicators.

This is the final stage of the prove-test-prove sequence required by GS38. It confirms that voltage indicators were functioning correctly throughout the entire testing process.

If indicators fail to prove live at this stage, you cannot trust the results of the tests you have just completed.

The circuit may still be live and the indicator may have failed silently during testing.

Stop immediately, replace all covers, remove the faulty indicator from service, obtain a working tester, and restart the correct isolation process from the beginning.

If both indicators prove live the prove-test-prove sequence is complete.

Every conductor at the point of work has tested at zero volts using a functioning GS38 compliant instrument that has been verified before and after use.

Your isolations are locked off, your padlocks are fitted, your keys are retained, and your warning notices are in place.

The system is confirmed dead. It is safe to work.

STEP 7 — RECHECK EQUIPMENT & CONFIRM ISOLATION

Re-prove your test equipment on a known live source. If all tests show no voltage, System confirmed dead — safe to work.

GS38 - Requires the prove-test-prove sequence to be completed in full. Re-proving after testing is not optional. It is the step that gives the entire procedure its legal and practical validity.

EAWR 1989 Regulation 13 - Adequate precautions have been taken to prevent the equipment from becoming electrically charged during work. The completed prove-test-prove sequence is the evidence that those precautions were adequate.

BS 7671 Section 537 - Isolation has been verified at the point of work using a suitable instrument that has been confirmed as functioning correctly. The installation may now be worked on safely.