



## News – Changes to the Australian Standard 3760:2010

### Testing and tagging

Recently a group of professional and passionate representatives met to review AS/NZS3760 “In service safety inspection and testing of portable equipment”. The debate whilst lively ensured the proposed changes would make the industry safer for employers and employees in Australian and New Zealand.

Whilst the standard has been revised, some key areas are worth noting as they affect the way your test and tagging is implemented.

#### Re - testing Frequencies (Table 4) -

The suggested table 4 has been reviewed and there are some changes worth noting in detail.

- ◆ Manufacturing environments have the same retesting time frames for both Class 1 and Class 2 (double insulated) electrical items. This will reduce the confusion in manufacturing environments. So as per the new AS/NZS3760:2010 Class 1 and Class 2 are now both subject to retesting every 6 months.
- ◆ Portable RCD used in commercial cleaning are now required to be tested by push button daily and or prior to use whichever is longer. They must now also include a trip time test annually by a competent person.

#### Information placed on tags -

The new standard AS/NZS 3760:2010 now states and specifies that the retest date must be applied to the tag placed on the item after testing. The durable, non reusable, non metallic tag must also carry the standard in which it relates to i.e.; AS/NZS 3760:2010 plus and including the test date as per usual.

#### New Equipment -

In Australia, equipment that is new and entering into service for the first time but not tested and tagged shall have a tag applied that includes the following information:

- ◆ Wording, “new to service”
- ◆ Date of entry to service
- ◆ Date when next test is due
- ◆ Statement, “This appliance has not been tested in accordance with AS/NZS 3760”

#### Leased Equipment -

The new AS/NZS 3760:2010 now states that the hirer or the leasee is responsible for the inspection and testing and tagging of all hired and leased equipment whilst the



equipment is in their possession. The equipment should be inspected tested and tagged by the hirer or leasee in accordance with the retest frequencies detailed in table 4 of the standard AS/NZS3760:2010

### **Responsible person -**

The new Standard makes specific references to the responsibilities of the responsible person to ensure the competency of technicians undertaking a test and tag program. The responsible person is the owner of the premises, equipment or under the relevant OH&S Act is deemed to be responsible for the safety of the workplace.

One of the most important areas of competency is the understanding of the standard, asks your technician if they own a copy of the latest standards and if they understand the new changes that have just occurred.

### **Appliances with a separate cord set (separate lead) -**

The new standard AS/NZS 3760:2010 now notes specifically that for equipment supplied by a cord set (separate lead) must be treated as 2 items and therefore must be tested and tagged separately.

Examples -

- ◆ Battery charger supplied with and IEC lead would consist of 2 tests, one for the battery charger and one for the IEC lead a tag must be applied to both items.

**For more information please call 1300 255 777 or email  
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