

Temporary power at events

About 5 minutes · Read it out, then ask the questions at the end.

Why it matters. Events bring power, crowds and weather together. Temporary systems must be designed, installed and checked so the public and crew stay safe.

The hazards

- Shock from damaged cables and connectors
- Trip hazards from cables in public areas
- Overloaded generators and distribution
- Water and weather

Stay safe

- Events normally run at 230V single-phase and 400V/415V three-phase, using blue and red connectors
- Systems should be designed, installed and inspected by competent people, following BS 7909
- Use RCD protection on circuits that the public or crew can reach
- Protect cables in public areas with cable ramps or fly them overhead
- Keep connectors off the ground and protected from water
- Don't overload outlets: check the load before plugging in
- Report damaged cables and kit straight away

Ask the team

1. Who is responsible for the power system on this event?
2. Where do cables cross public routes, and are they protected?
3. What would you do if a distribution unit tripped?

The law and guidance

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989; BS 7909, Code of practice for temporary electrical systems for entertainment and related purposes.

General guidance to help you give a toolbox talk. It doesn't replace your site's risk assessments, method statements, permits or training. Check it against your own site rules before you give it.

Free toolbox talk from EW Group, 110V site temps specialists. www.ewgroup.co.uk · Bristol 0117 982 0005 · London 020 7476 0001

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Site: _____ Date: _____

Given by: _____ Company: _____

By signing, I confirm I attended this toolbox talk and understood it.

Name (print)	Company	Signature	Time

Keep this record with your site's training and briefing records.