

## SAFETY BULLETIN

### Electrical Equipment Charger Safety

#### Who needs to read this?

All staff and students

#### Investigation Results/Information

A situation has recently arisen where a staff member unplugged a 10w USB iPad charger from a power point without first switching the power point off. On removal of the charger from the socket outlet, the front section of the charger detached from the body of the unit.

In this case the circuit Overload Protective Device (OPD) tripped at the switchboard, the tripping of an OPD, as opposed to a Residual Current Device (RCD) tripping, is normal for this type of fault.



This situation was potentially very dangerous and could have resulted in the staff member receiving an electric shock if the Active and Neutral short had not occurred, in this case this tripped the protective device.



# HEALTH AND SAFETY

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## Recommendations

1. Staff and Students are reminded to switch off electrical items at the electrical socket outlets prior to unplugging them.
2. Staff and Students should visually inspect all electrical appliances including mobile device chargers prior to use.

## Who do we call with questions?

If you have any queries, please contact Properties Facilities Management – Electrical Engineering on 9266 2020

**References**   [Electrical Safety Procedure](#)

**Date of Issue** - 11/10/2013