



HSEM BULLETIN

Electrical Safety

Who needs to read this?

All Curtin University Staff and Students

Background / Incident Details

Recent incidents have highlighted the need for precaution where water is present or proximal to electrical accessories (Socket Outlets, Light Switches etc.) or electrical appliances.

Information / Investigation Results

Mains water is an excellent conductor of electricity. In the event that water comes into contact with live parts of an electrical accessory or appliance and a person comes into contact with the water, accessory or the appliance, this may result in the person receiving an electric shock.

Recommendations

- If there is a likelihood that water has come into contact with an electrical accessory or appliance, do not attempt to isolate or switch off the device.
- Call Safer Communities Team (SCT) on ext. 4444 to restrict access to the area or room.
- Immediately contact the Service Coordination Centre (SCC) on ext. 2020.
- In all cases of suspected electrical shock, assess for Danger prior to administering first aid.
- Any person receiving or suspected of receiving an electric shock **must** seek medical assistance.
- All electrical incidents or hazards must be reported into [C.H.A.R.M.](#).



Who do we call with questions?

If you have any queries, please contact Health, Safety and Emergency Management on 9266 4900 or email healthandsafety@curtin.edu.au.

References

EnergySafety WA (2000) [Using electricity safely near water](#)

SafeWork Australia (2017) [Electrical safety](#)

St John Ambulance (2018) [Electric shock](#)

[Electrical Safety Procedures](#)

Date of Issue

25/05/2018