

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

**Electrical installations—Construction
and demolition sites**

AS/NZS 3012:2003

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee EL-001, Wiring Rules. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 30 December 2002 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 24 January 2003. It was published on 31 January 2003.

The following are represented on Committee EL-001:

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Australian Building Codes Board
Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers Association
Canterbury Manufacturers Association
Communications, Electrical Plumbing Union
Electrical Contractors Association Qld
Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand
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National Electrical and Communications Association
National Utilities and Electrotechnology Industry Training Advisory Body
New Zealand Council of Elders
New Zealand Electrical Institute
Regulatory authorities (electrical)
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Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Electrical installations—Construction and demolition sites

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/ Standards New Zealand Committee EL-001, Wiring Rules to supersede AS/NZS 3012:1995.

The purpose of this Standard is to establish sound practices for the safe use of electricity at construction and demolition sites. It is to be applied in conjunction with AS/NZS 3000, *Electrical installations* (known as the Australian/ New Zealand Wiring Rules).

The main differences between this Standard and AS/NZS 3012:1995 include the following:

- (a) Requirements of this Standard have been varied to reflect the performance based philosophy of AS/NZS 3000.
- (b) The application of this Standard has been broadened to more accurately reflect the types of electrical installations to which it applies.
- (c) Requirements for switchboards used on construction and demolition sites have been expressed in terms of fitness for purpose, rather than limiting of design.
- (d) Requirements for the use of residual current devices on portable generators have been clarified.
- (e) Requirements for supply to relocatable construction huts have been clarified.
- (f) Inspection of the connection between the generator windings and the equipotential bonding system on portable generators has been included at intervals not exceeding three months.
- (g) Applicability of requirements for electrical installations on domestic housing construction sites is clearly delineated in Appendix B.
- (h) Classification of buildings and structures from Building Code of Australia is added as Appendix C.
- (i) Regulatory application listing is added as Appendix D.
- (j) Requirements for marking of switchboards to warn of the possibility of access to live parts have been included and illustrated in Appendix E.

Any requirements which may be applicable only in Australia or New Zealand are indicated by the symbol **A** or **NZ** in the right margin.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is for information and guidance.

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Australian/New Zealand Standard**Electrical installations—Construction and demolition sites**

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out minimum requirements for the design, construction and testing of electrical installations which supply electricity to appliances and equipment on construction and demolition sites, and for the in-service testing of portable, relocatable and fixed electrical equipment used on construction and demolition sites.

For a single domestic residence intended to be occupied as a residential housing unit, or, adjoining units each with a separate exterior entry and intended to be occupied as residential housing units, the requirements of this Standard are varied as detailed in Appendix B.

NOTE: Guidance to applicable types of construction is given in Appendix C.

The requirements are intended to protect persons, livestock and property from electric shock, fire and physical injury hazards that may arise from an electrical installation that is used with reasonable care and with due regard to the intended purpose of the electrical installation.

NOTE: For requirements and recommendations regarding safe working on or near electrical equipment and installations, refer to AS/NZS 4836, *Safe working on low-voltage electrical installations*.

This Standard applies to electrical installations associated with construction and demolition sites which include—

- (a) building work, excavation work, compressed air work and diving work;
- (b) parts of buildings which undergo structural alterations, such as extensions, major repairs or demolition, to the extent that the work necessitates the provision of a temporary electrical installation;
- (c) work on or in connection with the construction or maintenance of roads, airfields or airstrips, civil engineering works or bridges, or of the permanent way of a railway or tramway;
- (d) dredging or salvaging work;
- (e) the laying, lining or maintenance of pipes or cables;
- (f) earthmoving work carried out with equipment requiring the use of other than manual power;
- (g) any work in which explosives are used;
- (h) site offices, cloakrooms, meeting rooms, dormitories, canteens, toilets, appliances and other facilities provided during any work referred to in (a) to (g); and
- (i) land clearing in preparation for any work referred to in (a) to (g).