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FISUEL INFORMATION LETTER

International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users

Edito

National Electrical Safety Data Collection Centres

There are still four months, for you to take steps which will enable you to announce at our next annual General Meeting of members that you have set up your National Electrical Safety Data Collection Centre.

An informal organisation which brings together all stakeholders concerned by this issue: consumers, insurance companies, fire services, manufacturers, installers, Standardisation bodies, wholesalers, energy suppliers and the Authorities.

A round table, indeed, will be scheduled, in Lisbon (on 15th/16th may) and a sharing of information, statistics, analysis, ideas and proposals in order to advance the safety of electricity users.

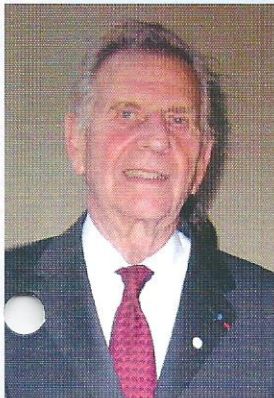
What is your interest, indeed? To know more, to have a better understanding, and together to be stronger, when being united, your proposals will have authority, you put forward common positions, you will push for certain measures, provisions, recommendations or new legislation.

Our interest in FISUEL?

- To capitalize on all these ideas and information from fifteen National Centres and thus to become the global reference point, listened to and respected in this area.
- And, to allow an enrichment of exchanges between members, to give them more content; to promote benchmarking and knowledge of best practices.

Should you need any other help to enter into this process, which seems to us essential, do not hesitate to contact us.

Philippe ANDRÉ
President of CONSUEL
Romualdo ARIAS
Ex-President of FENIE



David McGLOUGHLIN (RECI), Denis HANNOTIN (FISUEL),
Ivan HAMMOND (RECI), Philippe ANDRE (CONSUEL), Keizou SHIMIZU (FESIA),
Laurent CHERONNET (CONSUEL), Mike CLARK (NICEIC)

NEWS

New member to join FISUEL

During its meeting on 17th May 2007, the Board of Directors pronounced the admission of a new member:

■ ACTIVE MEMBER

■ KONSUIL Pusat, Indonesia
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Flash on FENIE

The 27th November 2007, Francisco Paramio SALDAÑA was elected as President of FENIE replacing Romualdo ARIAS who will continue to represent FENIE in FISUEL.

Buenos Aires : International Forum of Electrical Safety, 6 november 2007



■ Verification of new installations The challenge of existing installations in dwellings The Latin-American experiment

Around 100 participants from 15 countries assembled in Buenos Aires for the 2007 International Forum for Security Electrical was held on November 6, during the Exhibition BIEL-Light + Building, organised by FISUEL, in partnership with APSE.

After a welcome by the Presidents, Sandro Rollan (APSE), Ramiro Prodan (CADIEEL), and José Tomaz Gomes (FISUEL), the representatives of various countries (France, Ireland, England, Portugal, Korea, Mexico, Chile, Spain, Brazil, Argentina) gave a series of presentations on the importance of the verification of electrical installations in dwellings both:

- before connection to the network,
- and then – on a periodic and/or regular basis – because, for FISUEL, as the years pass, the installation complying less and less with the Standards, becomes dangerous.



For this reason, for both the Federation and APSE: having a Standard is minimal; verification of its application is essential, but, even more, the carrying out periodic inspection of older, existing installations, for damage, deterioration and non-compliance with up-to-date Standards is also essential. These were the major issues developed – and universally endorsed by everyone – during the meeting. Another important matter raised by many participants was the threat posed by counterfeit products and by defects in such products. Effectively, for FISUEL, a proper installation begins with the use of equipment which complies with the Standards prevailing in the country.

The meeting was an opportunity for CANAME, represented by Rafael Yanez, to sign the FISUEL Agreement *All united against counterfeiting*, already approved by a large number of industry players, partners with the Federation, "in order that threat does not become a plague».

Finally, when in conclusion, Sandro Rollan and Tomaz José Gomes, having recalled the intention of FISUEL to establish an International Electrical Safety Data Collection Centre, to be headed by Presidents Philippe André (CONSUEL, France) and Romualdo Arias (FENIE, Spain), confirmed that this objective will be achieved by the setting up of National Data Collection Centres, similar to those which presently exist (ONSE, France; PRIE, Spain; Electrical Safety Commission, Mexico).

Counterfeit Products

In 2008, French industry will strengthen its struggle to maintain a market for safe electrical equipment



Regularly plagued by counterfeiting, the electrical equipment market is also subject of further unfair competition, from products which do not comply with the relevant Standards. In France, and more generally in Europe, these phenomena have been progressing dangerously for the past three or four years. And even more, for just over seven years, counterfeit and unfair products have penetrated the developing and emerging countries. In some places, 10 to 80% of electrical equipment turns out to be counterfeit products! The suppliers of these false products carry on regardless of the normally applied rules. On a wide basis they call into question the trust previously established in electrical installations. It is precisely because of the product Standards and rules for installations, specifically developed and implemented, that in France we have the benefit of using a vast majority of secured electric installations. It is necessary to be careful that, in no case, this level of quality and safety should be degraded!

This is a global issue which focuses on safety, as is the similar phenomena of competition from false products which equally

dangerously affects the market for automobile spare parts or even the medicine.

Today, the equipment most affected is the first rank safety items. These are mostly residual current circuit breakers and differential switches. Their use can lead to situations of shock, of repeated failures, or of fires! Moreover, this situation calls into question the responsibility, and even the actions of the industry's players. Faced with such a scourge, the energy supply company, European manufacturers, wholesalers, electrical contractors and organisations in charge of verification have become aware of the need to co-ordinate their efforts. They also understand how the present struggle remains an inadequate response to this piratical penetration in the market.

This general awareness leads us to pursue a new policy of concerted struggle against these false products, in order to ensure that market has only safe product. Actions are being developed among industry players. Thus, throughout the year 2008, these actions will be deployed in France, in line with a strengthened programme led at European level. One only objective will be pursued: to maintain a competitive and fair market for safe electrical equipment ! To be continued...

Eric Bertran

General Delegate of Domergie

Indonesia, KONSUIL in Jakarta



Indonesia, Jakarta capital with:
 Population : 7,544,200 inhabitants
 Area : 66,260 km²
 Number of electrical consumers : 3,259,154
 Number of residential consumers : 2,948,831 (90%)
 Growth of electrical consumers : 110,000/ yr (2006)

In operation since 2004 – with 1162 staff, of which 711 inspectors – KONSUIL is an Independent Inspection Body that has a statutory duty to inspect the electrical installations of low voltage consumers.

Being in the capital of Indonesia, KONSUIL Jakarta Region, 148 employees, of which 76 are inspectors, has a higher responsibility compared with those of other Regions. So the quality of the inspectors must be maintained carefully and the result of the inspections should be reliable.

Number of fires

	Year 2005	Year 2006
Number of fires:	746	902
out of		
which from electrical causes:	398 (53,35%)	461 (51,12%)

Results of initial inspections (new installations)

Total inspection in 2006: 62.837 installations, with the result:

- Compliant:	56%
- Accepted with reservations:	6%
- Not accepted:	38%

Causes of failures

- **Accepted with reservations, 6 %** : basically due to administrative aspects, such as no proper installation drawings, miscalculations of number of lamps on the drawing, etc.
- **Not accepted, 38 %**, due to:
 1. Earthing system not correct,
 2. Materials not compliant with Standards,
 3. Installation not compliant with the Standard.

Lack of space having prevented a full coverage of the response to the arrival in the Federation of Italy, the editorial staff are pleased to be able to provide below some additional insights into the activities of this country.



Italy, some new lights (ISPESL)

1. The idea of Qualified persons as meaning, authorised to:

Install, transform, extend and maintain installations; they must be

- Members of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craftsmanship and Agriculture (CCIAA) covering their location; either as a company or as a craftsman.
- In any case they must be registered, in order to make the relevant Attestation and are included in the annual lists available at the CCIAA.

2. Technical-professional requirements

The practice of the above activities is subject to being in possession of technical-professional requirements (by the contractor or by a technician made responsible for such activities).

3. Design of installations

Installation, transformation, extension of the following installations are subject to written design:

- Public buildings, common locations with a load greater than 6 kW; for dwellings (single living units) where the area is greater than 400 m²; and for any installation with more than 1200 VA as delivered by supplier;
- Industry, commerce, offices and other activities when the supply voltage is higher than 1000 V, or low voltage users when area is greater than 200 m²;
- Electrical installations with declared load greater than or equal to 1,5 kW;
- All premises subject to a specific Standard of the Italian Electrical Committee (CEI), such as locations for medical use, or in which there are potentially explosive atmospheres, or with higher risks of fire.

The design is required to contain an installation diagram, together with a technical report indicating the components and equipment used, as well as the preventative and safety measures to be adopted.

However, the installation of household appliances, ordinary maintenance, and temporary electrical supplies do not require a written design.

4. Attestation of conformity

At the end of the work it is necessary to assemble the following information, documents and signatures:

- Signature of the technician responsible for the safety of the installation (as having executed the work);
- Technical report on the execution of the work, with a list of the materials and components used;
- Where required a written design, otherwise a drawing of the installation;
- Signature of the contractor who has executed the work;
- Number of the VAT account and of membership of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craftsmanship and Agriculture (CCIAA) of the contractor who has executed the work;
- A copy of the a copy of the document attesting to the possession by the contractor of the necessary technical-professional competence.

In case of a partial refurbishment the accompanying documents need refer only to the new part of the installation, but in the technical report the compatibility with the existing installation must be explicitly shown

5. Duties of those involved in the installation

Customers' duties:

- To have the design carried out by a competent professional (member of a professional board within its own competence);
- To place the work with qualified contractors;
- To ask for and to keep safe the attestation of conformity.

Designers' duties:

- To prepare a design that conforms with the safety requirements and that uses the relevant preventative measures.

Contractors' duties:

- To be qualified (members of the CCIAA for their location);
- To carry out the work so as to comply with the Standards;
- To use materials and components which comply with the Standards;
- To issue the attestation of conformity at the completion of the work;
- To send a copy of the attestation of conformity to the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Craftsmanship and Agriculture (CCIAA) relevant for the location.

Public Authorities' duties, town Councils must:

- Obtain a copy of the design;
- Obtain the Attestation of conformity;
- Carry out audits to ascertain the conformity of installations (town Councils with more than 10,000 inhabitants carry out a number of audits equal to 10% of the annual number of documents stating that locations are fit for habitation).

Other public administration representatives also entitled to make audits: *Local Health Bodies (ASL), Fire Departments, ARPA, ISPESL*

ISPESL : contact Gianluca Amicucci, tél + 39 06 94 181 496 – e-mail : gl.amicucci@tin.it





Photo of counterfeit materials and non standard equipments

That is to say more precisely:

- 70 %: earthing system has a bad connection or not installed properly,
- 60 %: wrong polarity,
- 50 %: wrong position/place of socket (potentially unsafe),
- 25 %: bad connection on distribution board,
- 65 %: incorrect installation drawing,
- 25 %: insulation of cable not compliant with Standards,
- 50 %: wiring not compliant with the Standard,
- 40 %: electrical equipment such as distribution board, MCBs, sockets, or switches not compliant with Standards.

Consequences

Electrical installations are required to be improved and other positive actions to be carried out simultaneously.

Some challenges

- Counterfeit equipments in the market (*local and imported*).
- Substandard sizes of cables in the market (*local imported*).
- More competence and care from the contractor.
- More support from the energy supplier and more care from some installers.
- Carelessness for safety of the consumers.

Countermeasures

1. Strong request to Regulator to publish additional national Standards (for cables, protection systems, and control panel) followed by introduction to public.
2. More intensive campaign for stake holders to implement the Standard (General Qualification of Installation).
3. Continuous improvement of personal capability not only for the inspectors but also for the installers.
4. Public safety awareness campaign for safety to create a "Care Safety Society".

Targets for 2008 improvements

1. Reduce of 10 % in the percentage of installations not accepted (at first verification).
2. All inspectors in Jakarta Region to have a Certificate of Competence (CoC).
3. Propose increase to 50 % in the number of installers having a Certificate of Skill.
4. Public safety awareness campaign, with information through the media, and seminars/workshops, one in each municipal district.
5. Sharing of information and technical issues with the "Medium and High Voltage Consumer Inspection Body" every six months.

Conclusion

There is a lot of room left for improvement:

- Sustainable safety campaign based on the national Standard is very important. The Public should be involved in this process.
- Strong effort to eliminate the use counterfeit products.
- Increasing the quality of staff is a "must".
- In the year 2008, KONSUIL will set up Regional Offices throughout of Indonesia.

The President, the Board of Directors and everyone at FISUEL send you their best wishes for 2008

Dates for your diary

- **Friday 29 February 2008, Istanbul (Turkey)**
 - Board of Directors, followed by an Information Meeting, 1st March, during WIN Exhibition
- **14/15 April 2008, Yaoundé (Cameroon)**
 - Information Meeting, to be confirmed
- **15/16 May 2008, Lisbon (Portugal)**
 - Annual General Meeting of Members
- **Wednesday 21 May 2008, Cracow (Poland)**
 - UIE Congress, www.uie2008.pl



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