



fisuel INFO

FISUEL INFORMATION LETTER

www.fisuel.com

International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users

Dear friends: On this end of the year, I am pleased to send you my best wishes for all you and for the organisation that you represent into our Federation. I wish fervently that you can find in the FISUEL, enough content for interchanges with all the other organisations, of the information and new ideas, so as an important number of sources of achievement.

Happy and prosperous 2.009

Your President

Romualdo Arias



NEWS



Electrosuisse

Electrosuisse is the benchmark organisation in the fields of electronics, energy and information technologies. The Association has 4,300 personal members and 1,750 institutional and specialist members. It provides services such as consulting, monitoring, certifying and on-going training courses to the entire electro-technical sector. It undertakes to promote the safe, reliable,



economical and environmentally-friendly production and use of electricity. Moreover, Electrosuisse represents the Swiss economy in the electrotechnical field on international standardisation and certification Commissions, and manages the Federal Inspectorate for Heavy Current Installations (ESTI).

In Switzerland the electrical safety market has moved on considerably since the publication of **Ordonnance RS 734.27** (Decree on low voltage electrical installations - OIBT), which came into effect on 1st January 2002, and enabled new players to carry out checks on low voltage electrical installations, when previously only the electricity distributor was permitted to do so. From now on, under article 5 of this decree the owner or a representative named by him must ensure that the electrical installation complies at all times with the fundamental requirements regarding safety and the reduction of interference set out in articles 3 and 4. Furthermore he must be able to produce a **"safety report"** on demand.

At the same time, if he wishes to have fixed electrical equipment modified, serviced, connected or disconnected, the person or company carrying out the work must possess a **"General permit to install"**. This is issued and published in a register maintained by the ESTI and is valid for an unlimited period throughout Switzerland. Holders of the permit must have a diploma or qualification whose characteristics are also set out in the OIBT. Monitoring bodies appointed by the owners check the work when it has been completed and submit a **"safety report"** after carrying out a **"initial verification"** for **new** installations, or a **"periodic inspection"** for **existing** installations.



In FISUEL, exchanges of information are made, which the President finds gratifying...

Controleplus, Wishinspect, and Estarmejor, three members of FISUEL are discussing among themselves ; the younger, wishing to set up an organisation for the verification of electrical installations in its country – member of the Federation since two months – addresses the others.

- **Wi:** we joined FISUEL because we gathered that thanks to it, we would be able to set up in our country a system enabling to be sure that installation Standards are correctly applied, because even if they are quite good... we have doubts, there are still too many accidents, too many !

- **Controleplus:** you will not regret this decision ; in this Federation, you will have twice a year, testimonies of those who have preceded you on this path ; you will be able to discuss with them, to go and visit them in their countries ; a world of possibilities, of roads towards your goal, will be opened in front of you.

Without entering into details, without reminding that, wrongly, in some countries, it is still the energy supplier which makes the verifications, you will discover that there are several systems ; very simply:

- the verification by a third part
- self certification when the contractor is registered
- lastly, a mix system, either the installer is registered, and he is entitled to self certify, or he is not, and in this case, all the installations he makes are verified by a third body.

In other words: be a member of FISUEL, it is a little like to eat "à la carte" instead of being in front of a menu, have the possibility to make a choice.

- **Wi:** does that mean that before two or three years, I will have a complete vision, and will be likely to propose our supervising Ministries the "best system".

- **CPJS:** definitely, yes. We are used to say : one year in FISUEL, three years saved ! And it will be possible for you to add that you took your inspiration from quite a number of models.

But, Estarmejor, we do not hear you.

- **Estarmejor:** I do not say anything, because we already are very performant ; our system has now been in service for some decades, and quite a number of countries have adopted it.

But I would like to add one point : be very good, it is well, but one can or one must always progress, or in another way, as the sailors say, "too strong has never missed" !

Example: as far as we are concerned, wishing to progress, we have set up an Electrical Safety Observatory, an informal body in which are represented all the actors concerned by safety of electricity users.

The Observatory makes observations, collects, works and makes recommendations ; advantage of this system, its proposals reflect a consensual thought that is shared by all its members: therefore, they are very strong, and the Government will take them into account.

Thanks to this method, we have indeed made a significant step forward in the verification of existing installations. Moreover, our Federation invites all its members to do the same. Make one's best, is never enough, one can always progress.

- **Wi:** it is most interesting, and hearing you, I am wondering whether we should not, in a first step, - before finalising a complete system of verifications -, set up this Observatoire, which will then recommend to the Government the necessary regulations. Thus, our chances to be heard will be increased, more chances to succeed.

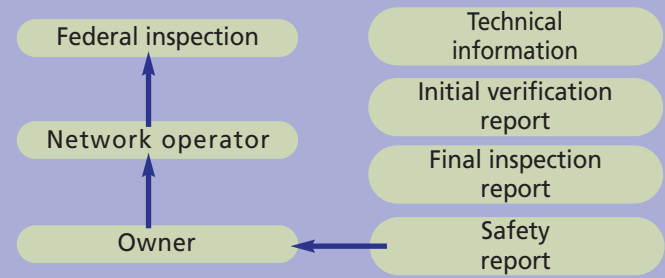
- **ESMJ:** you are perfectly right, and we will help you. In FISUEL, one is never alone.

The president of FISUEL steps in:

Dear friends, I can see that you are exchanging, and I can but congratulate you. It certainly is one of the trumps of our Federation : have the possibility of sharing our concerns and solutions, and thus to improve.

I leave you at work, but before going, I wish you, as to all who will read these minutes of your reflexions, an excellent 2009 year.

Installation file



The frequency is a function of the type of electrical installation: conveyance via ducting, munition works and fuel depots situated in the areas of protection against explosions 0, 20, 1 and 21 defined by the SUVA (Swiss national accident insurance fund), premises for medical use under categories 3 and 4, etc. It depends on the potential risk and the duration of the authorisation. This can be for 1, 5, 10 or 20 years.

- Annually for special installations or those maintained by an internal electrician.
- Every 5 years for hotels, public places and ERPs.
- Every 10 years for industry and small companies.
- Every 20 years for housing.

When the period is less than 20 years the owner must have a "initial verification" carried out and submit the "safety report" to the appropriate authorities within 6 months. In the case of a change of owner, installations whose frequency of inspections is between 10 and 20 years must undergo a new inspection if the last was more than 5 years before.

The bodies authorised to carry them out are:

■ the **independent control bodies or accredited inspection bodies** who have ESTI authorisation. However, only inspection bodies accredited under ISO/IEC 1702 (standard for inspection organisations) by the SAS (Swiss Accreditation Service) may examine installations with special risk potential (special installations).

■ the **network operators**, who may only monitor outside the sector they supply, on condition that they have set up a legally and financially independent organisational unit, and must also check the accuracy of the safety reports regarding their own network, and keep them in a register until the following periodic inspection has been completed, for a minimum of 5 years.

The **ESTI** supervises and assists all the players involved and may order any necessary measures to this end. It obtains copies of safety reports and verifies them periodically, intervening in the event of disputes. The ESTI is also responsible for monitoring electrical installations for owners who have not appointed an authorised inspection body.

■ Contact

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Seoul's Forum

Nearly 15 countries, more than 50 participants, were present in Seoul, on 11 and 12 November for the International Forum on Electrical Safety, organised by FISUEL with the partnership of KESCO.



It is true that the whole of the issues that had to be dealt with was likely to be seducing. It has been first, in KESCO's premises:

- a general presentation (16 teams, 1 Institute. 53 branches, 2 876 staff),

- a thorough situation on the verifications of electrical installations in dwellings (16 millions dwellings, pre-inspection before the connection, verification every three years, and 6 generic points of inspection),

- a complete information on statistics (in 2007: 1 900 fires of electrical origin, out of 48 000, out of which more than half are due to short circuits, 61 deaths, out of which 36 in housing), and of a presentation of the way they are widely subject to communication every year, in the whole country.



Romualdo ARIAS, President of Fisuel, and In Bae RIM, President of Kesco.

The following day, the 12, participants have had the chance to be able to attend the annual "Electrical Safety Event", a large communication campaign - chaired by the Vice-minister of Education and Economy, Jae Hoon Lee and by the President of Kesco, In Bae Rim - aimed at awarding 57 persons particularly implicated during the year in electrical safety.

Lastly, it was the Forum, properly speaking, chaired by Romualdo Arias, President of FISUEL, with 11 presentations, permitting to successively get on to: FISUEL, on-line monitoring system development for ensuring electrical safety in Korea, role of electrical contractors on safety of electrical installations in Indonesia, safety inspection of electrical facilities in Taiwan, registration of electrical contractor and competent person in Malaysia, verification of electrical

installations in Portugal, French national electrical safety data collection centre, periodical verification of electrical installations for dwellings in Japan, what happens during an earth fault, electrical safety issues in changing power system environment, and "safe world" by ECI.

As many issues which once more have showed the wide field of interests shared by FISUEL members, before the President Arias comes to the conclusion, by inviting all participants to attend the 2009 AGM, in Paris, 11 and 12 June.

ESC, London 8 and 9 September

The electrical safety council leads global debate on product safety



David LATIMER, Phil BUCKLE, Romualdo ARIAS, Adiouma DIONE

The Electrical Safety Council's inaugural International Electrical Product Safety Conference took place in Westminster on 8 and 9 September and was exceptionally well received, attracting international delegates from countries throughout Europe and the rest of the world.

Counterfeiting, quality certification, industry regulation, legislation and consumer protection were issues high on the agenda at the two-day event.

Dave Dossett, Chairman of the Electrical Safety Council and Chief Executive of BEAMA said:

This highly successful initiative has brought together, for the first time, key stakeholders involved in improving the safety of electrical products in a truly globalized marketplace, providing an invaluable platform for product safety and electrical professionals from the international community to debate, network and knowledge share.

The issues discussed at the Conference are pertinent to all of those in the UK electrical industry from manufacturers and distributors, contractors and specifiers, to policy makers and regulators.



The Tuesday 11 November workshop exchanges at KESCO



In opening up the debate our aim is to develop a clear strategy for working with other organisations to help shape the future direction of product safety.

The Electrical Safety Council has added its backing to the Electrical Installation Industry Charter, an agreement that confirms the commitment of all signatories in the fight against the trade in counterfeit electrical products, and the proliferation of products failing to comply with the appropriate standards.

And Dave Dossett added: *Sub-standard and counterfeit electrical products can kill, no-one is immune and it is in everyone's interest that the electrical industry unites to tackle this global problem.*

Following the success of this inaugural event the Electrical Safety Council's aim is that the Conference should become a biennial event in the international electrical industry calendar.

More information on: www.esc.org.uk

Yaounde

The 4th and 5th July, the first «Salon International sur la normalisation, les standards et la sécurité des installations électriques intérieures» was held in Yaounde, Cameroon.



Opening of the exhibition by the Ministry of Energy

Organised by FISUEL and ARSEL (Cameroonian associate member of FISUEL), with the sponsorship of the Ministry of Energy and Water, the associated sponsorship of the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Technological Development, it was attended by ten countries: France (CONSUEL), Senegal (PROQUELEC), United States, Ivory Coast (LBTP Securel), Benin (CONTRELEC), Togo, Gabon, Nigeria, Burkina Faso and Cameroon (ARSEL).

FISUEL was represented by Adiouma Dione, Vice-president. Thanks to the different contributions made by the experts, it was possible to confirm the necessity and urgency of the

setting up in Cameroon of an institutional and regulatory framework in order that electrical installations be verified.

Beside these presentations, an exhibition of equipments for checking installations, opened by a number of officials from various authorities, was held.

Most of the sessions were chaired by Adiouma Dione.

The Federation was warmly thanked for its involvement in this Salon and for its mission to promote electrical safety in the world.

Workshop in Brazzaville

Between 30th June and 2nd July, Adiouma Dione visited to Brazzaville (Congo). The goal was: make the persons responsible for the electrical sector aware of the necessity for setting up an organisation for the verification of the safety of electricity users. On that occasion he met a number of authorities – among whom Jean-Marie Iwandza, Managing Director of Energy – as well as some electrical contractors interested in this process.

In the summary of conclusions signed by the Managing Director of Energy and by the Vice-president of FISUEL the following points were brought out:

- necessity of initiating the setting up of the verifications of the safety of electricity users
- necessity of entrusting the management of the compliance of electrical installations to an organisation which gathers together: users, wholesalers and electrical contractors.

Ireland

RECI, appointed for gaz

The Commission for Energy Regulation is very pleased to announce that it has appointed the Register of Electrical Contractors of Ireland (RECI) as the Gas Safety Supervisory Body (GSSB). RECI intends to form a company limited by guarantee called the Register of Gas Installers of Ireland (RGII) with the sole purpose of operating as the GSSB. The RGII will be a wholly owned subsidiary of RECI and will be responsible for regulating gas installers with respect to safety. RGII will carry out this function on behalf of the Commission. It is envisaged that the RGII will be in a position to begin registering gas installers from 5th January 2009 and that the regulatory system will become fully operational during 2009.

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Dates for your diary

■ Monday 23 March 2009 – MADRID

- Board of Directors

■ Tuesday 11 and Friday 12 June 2009 – PARIS

- Annual General Meeting



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The ESIA Technical Training Centre in Tokyo

A presentation given by Toru KASAHARA, Managing Director of the Technical Training Centre of the KANTO ESIA, during a visit to the Tokyo Centre on 14th November 2008

Our Kanto Electrical Safety Inspection Association (a non profit-making association) - Kanto is a region around Tokyo composed of 7 administrative areas - was set up on 15th February 1966 with the authorisation of the then Ministry of International Trade and Industry, with the aim of contributing to electrical safety. So for 42 years we have been providing our customers with the most secure services based on leading-edge technology in electrical safety.

The Association's activities generate annual revenues of about 32 billion yens, and our field of action coincides with that of the Tokyo Electricity Company, whose headquarters is in the Kanto region.

We have 56 units and 3,193 employees as of October 2008, of which 3,021 are qualified technicians.

Our mission can be roughly divided into 3 activities:

■ Firstly, verification of electrical installations for general use. We are responsible to the Electricity Company for the verification of low voltage electrical installations for domestic use (in homes and stores). 661 employees are involved in this activity. Verifications are carried out in compliance with legislation and are of two types:

- verifications of new electrical installations,
- periodical verifications.

There are two instances of **new electrical installations**:

- new installations,
- modifications to installations.

When the work is completed we are responsible for verifying the compliance of the installations with current State-defined technical standards, and for verifying that electricity is used safely. We then inform the owner of the installations and the electricity company of the results obtained.

- for **periodical verifications** we visit users every 4 years in order to ensure that the electrical installations comply with technical standards for electricity. We inform the users of the results. This year we have 6 million periodic verifications



■ The second activity concerns Safety Management. Our clients, who are owners of buildings or factories, instruct us to verify high voltage electrical installations for business use or to give them technical advice. This safety management is also undertaken in compliance with legislation. 1,822 of our employees work in this sector.

It is a fact that where safety management is concerned, the law obliges owners of high voltage electrical installations for business use (over 6,600 volts) to appoint an electrical expert (a government licensed Chief Electrical Engineer) and



create rules for ensuring safety themselves. However, for electrical installations of less than 7,000 volts and those that generate less than 1,000 kW, owners can entrust us with these operations after signing a contract with our Association. This allows them to avoid appointing an electrical expert.

Safety management involves periodical verification of electrical installations (monthly checks without electricity cuts, annual checks with electricity cuts, by carrying out tests and measurements).

We ensure the safety of electrical installations on an ongoing basis via:

- provisional measurements during break-downs or incidents,
- proposals for design of new installations to be added to existing installations,
- verification of work on installations.

We currently have 98,267 clients.

■ The third activity is based on communication, and is aimed at generalising the public's knowledge of safety in the use of electricity and to raise awareness about precautions against electricity-related accidents. This activity is very important for a non profit-making organisation.

Broadening public knowledge about electricity safety and energy savings is achieved through various means:

- distribution of brochures,
- TV or radio programmes,
- setting up electricity classes,
- consulting.

Before finishing, I would like to say a few words about our Technical Training Centre:

To meet our clients' expectations each of our employees must be able to provide good quality service. The Technical Training Centre was set up in November 1997 as a teaching and training school, within the framework of the Association's 30th anniversary celebrations.

This building has 4 floors in reinforced concrete on a land area of 1,650 m², and a total area of 2,881 m². The main teaching equipment is:

- generators, and equipment for fire-fighting exercises on the ground floor,
- high voltage electrical installations on the 1st floor,
- safety equipment and a specially-built house for simulations of verification visits on the 2nd floor,
- administrative room on the 3rd floor,
- a solar generator with a solar cell on the terrace,
- electricity poles for climbing exercises, outside.

The Centre is equipped with professional equipment which can meet the requirements of the most varied training programmes.

A Centre like this allows us to train real technicians who will be capable of meeting its needs exactly, with carefully-prepared, effective programmes adapted to the different careers that they will follow there.

For your information, there were 3,966 participants in technical training courses last year: an average of 330 per month.

