



fisuel INFO

FISUEL INFORMATION LETTER

International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users

Editorial



Dear Friends,

OUR FEDERATION IS TEN YEARS OLD!

2002 - 2012, already ten years since our Federation has started existing, "Ten years" of experience sharing, cooperation and strong commitment to strengthening electrical safety in the world for the welfare of Users of Electricity.

For Africa, which hosts this year the Annual General Meeting of FISUEL, on the African soil of Côte d'Ivoire, this birthday could not have had a better date. This is a milestone that we must seize in order to develop our Federation in this part of the world where, unfortunately, issues with electrical safety, standardization and regulation arise seriously.

Our thoughts are with Mr. Emile Derlin Zinsou, former President of the Republic of Benin, who said in 2000 in Villepinte in France, that there was a lot to do in Africa in terms of electrical safety, while encouraging us to create an International Federation to spread the word around the world.

Ten years during which, FISUEL has been trying, wherever possible, to promote contacts and flow of experience between countries and to promote electrical safety for all at the international level.

Ten years after which a Strategic Plan has been developed. It reminds the guidances of our missions, our strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing our Federation, before defining the strategic thrusts that should underlie our actions.

Let us unit our strengths and our minds in order that live FISUEL!

Adiouma DIONE
Managing Director of PROQUELEC
Vice-president of FISUEL

Patricia Yerfino in Poland, invited by SEP



Between 8 and 10 March, Mrs. Patricia Yerfino, President of FISUEL came to Warsaw, Poland with the three-day visit at the invitation of professor Jerzy Barglik, the President of SEP with Mr. Benoit Dome, Vice-president of FISUEL accompanied her.



Janusz Okolski (Poland), Patricia Yerfino and Benoît Dôme

On 8 March took place:

- a meeting at the SEP office took place, during which matters concerning the cooperation between the SEP and FISUEL were discussed, whereas President Jerzy Barglik presented information on the activities of the SEP.
- a visit of UDT (Office of Technical Inspection), hosted by Mr. Marek Walczak, its President, who gave a presentation about UDT. Ms. Yerfino gave a presentation about FISUEL.

During the meeting the act of the establishing of NOBE (Foundation of National Electrical Safety Centre) was initiated by:

- Association of Polish Electrical Engineers - SEP
- Polish Economic Chamber of Electrotechnics - PIGE
- Electrotechnical Institute - IEL





➤ On the following day, meeting in the Electrotechnical Institute in Warsaw-Międzylesie was held, during which the activities of IEL and BBJ SEP (Research Division for quality and safety) were presented, respectively by Wieslaw Wilczynski, Director of IEL and Janusz Okólski, director of BBJ SEP. Mr. Wieslaw Wilczynski. Further to those presentations SEP's guests visited the laboratories of IEL and BBJ.

The same day, Mrs. Yerfino was admitted by the Ambassador of Argentina in Poland, Mr. J. E. Gerardo Biritos.



Patricia Yerfino with Benoît Dôme, Vice-president of Fisuel, and the President Barglik (SEP)

Briefs

■ The Europe working Group met on March 20th in Paris at FISUEL head office. The main points which were taken were:

Firefighters and photovoltaic installations, recommended measures of safety; FISUEL Manual: "Inspection and testing, minimum Requirements"; micro cogeneration; verifications of the existing photovoltaic installations; electric vehicles charging infrastructure in dwellings.



Revision of the electrical installations in Spain

On the requirement for the proper inspection and maintenance in good conditions of installations

Article 20 "Maintenance of the systems" of the Low Voltage Electrical Regulation, requires that the **"Owners of systems shall maintain their systems in good working condition, shall use them according to their characteristics and shall not take any action to modify them. If modifications are necessary, they must be carried out by an installation company."**

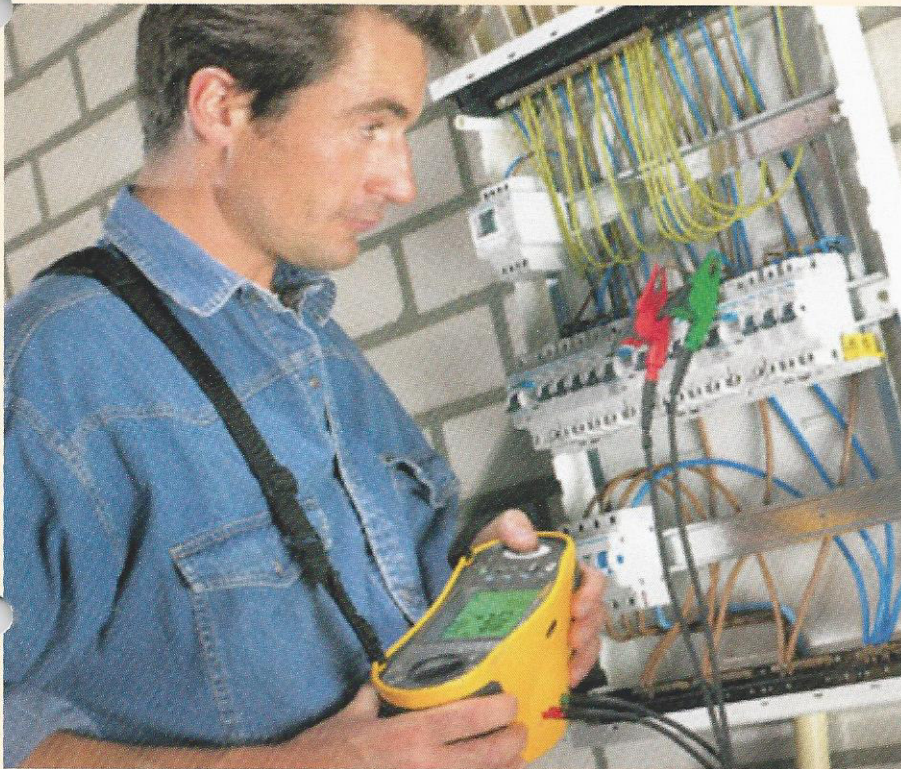
Furthermore, Article 22 of this Regulation, states that **when complying with the powers of the Public Administration to carry out inspection and monitoring of the activities through the Control Agencies**, the corresponding Complementary Technical Instruction lays down the following:

- a) installations and modifications, repairs or their extensions shall be subject to initial inspection prior to commissioning;
- b) installations which will have to be inspected periodically;
- c) the criteria for the assessment of the inspections and the measures to be taken as a result thereof;
- d) the intervals between periodic inspections.

The Complementary Technical Instruction ITC-BT-05 (Checks and inspections)

1 ■ Agents involved

- Initial verification, prior to the commissioning of the systems, must be performed by the operatives of the installing companies.
- The agents carrying out inspections of the electrical low voltage systems must act as Inspection Agencies.



2 ■ Checks prior to the commissioning

Low voltage electrical installations must be subject to initial verification prior to commissioning and as appropriate to their characteristics.

3 ■ Inspections

The low voltage electrical systems of particular relevance given below in Paragraph 3.1 must be inspected by an Inspection Agency, to ensure, as far as possible, compliance with the regulations throughout the life of these systems.

Inspections may be:

- **Initial ones:** prior to the commissioning of the installations;
- **Periodical ones.**

3.1 • Initial inspections

After completion, major extensions or modifications of the following systems, having been documented before the competent body of the Autonomous Community, must be checked:

- a) Industrial systems that require a project, with an installed capacity exceeding 100 kW;

- b) Premises open to public;
- c) Premises with risk of fire or explosion, class I, except garages of less than 25 spaces;
- d) Wet premises with an installed capacity exceeding 25 kW;
- e) Swimming pools with an installed capacity exceeding 10 kW;
- f) Operating room and medical procedure rooms;
- g) Outdoor lighting installations with

an installed capacity exceeding 5 kW.

3.2 • Periodic inspections

All the low voltage electric systems that required initial inspection according to Section 3.1.1 above will be regularly inspected **every 5 years** and **the housing common areas electrical installations with a total installed power exceeding 100 kW will be checked every 10 years**

4 ■ Procedure

Inspection Agencies will carry out the inspection of installations based on the requirements established by the Implementing Regulation and, where applicable, what is specified in the technical documentation, using the criteria for the classification of the defects identified. The installation company, if it thinks fit, may attend the carrying out of these inspections.

As a result of the inspection, the Inspection Agency will issue a Certificate of Inspection, which shall include the identification data of the system and the potential relationship of the defects, including their classification, and condition of the system, which may be:

- **Acceptable:** when the existence of any very serious or serious defects





has not been noted. In this case, any slight defects the record holder will be notified by a statement that will provide the means of rectifying them before the next inspection.

- **Conditional:** when the existence of at least one serious defect or slight defect from another previous inspection and that have not been corrected have been detected. In this case:

- a) New installations which are subject to this qualification may not be supplied with power until the defects have not been corrected and cannot be qualified as acceptable.

- b) For systems already in service, a deadline for its correction will be set, which may not exceed 6 months. After that time if the defects have not been remedied, the Control Authority must submit the Certificate with a negative qualification to the competent body of the Autonomous Community.

- **Negative:** when at least one very serious defect has been observed. In this case:

- a) New systems shall not be put into

service until the defects are corrected and the system cannot be qualified as favorable.

- b) For systems already in operation, a negative certificate will be issued, to be forwarded immediately to the competent body of the Autonomous Community.

Other cases to take into account

Under Article 83 of Royal Decree 1955/2000 dated December 1, regulating the activities of transport, distribution, marketing, supply and authorization procedures for electric power systems **"companies should proceed with the verification of the installations, authorizing to charge, in this case, the rights of the existing verification. If after such check, it is**

found that the systems do not meet the technical and safety regulations, the distributor shall require the adaptation of the systems and the presentation of the report for the installer."

Actions by FENIE

Regardless of these cases referred to in both the Low Voltage Electrotechnical Regulation and in Royal Decree 1955/2000, there are many very old systems in a precarious condition. That is why FENIE, in order to ensure the safety of persons and property, **is actively working on changing its Regulations for the inclusion of new cases that widens the number of cases requiring a review of the electrical system.**

The Ten Years of FISUEL



Ten years already!

It was in Beirut, at the headquarters of the ODI (Order of Engineers), February 1, 2001, fifteen organisations from eight countries, sharing the goal proposed by Philippe André, president of CONSUEL:

"ACT TO INCREASE AND MAKE CLOSER AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL ELECTRICAL SAFETY, AND TO THIS END,, ORGANIZE INFORMATION EXCHANGES AND RETURNS OF EXPERIENCES AMONG ITS MEMBERS"

decided to create FISUEL and to be its first members,

History has vindicated those visionaries, because today FISUEL is: thirty-four members, representing twenty-one countries on four continents, and the holding of more than twenty large open meetings, by the world, to promote a safe use of electricity.

Let's communicate more worldwide for greater Electrical Safety.

Dates for your diary

- **25 October, Europe Working Group, in London, at ESC**

