

APRIL 2008 APRIL 2008

**Electrical Contractors' Association (SA) - East / South Cape Region
Elektrotegniese Aannemersvereniging (SA) - Oos / Suid-Kaapstreek**

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PERSONAL SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE

Members are reminded that the General Safety Regulations, as published under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1993 require employers to provide, free of charge, the following safety equipment and facilities as may be necessary, to ensure that workers are not exposed to risk or any condition that may be harmful to the workers health or their safety in the course of their employment:-

- suitable goggles, spectacles, face shields, welding shields, visors, hard hats, protective helmets, caps, gloves, gauntlets, aprons, jackets, capes, sleeves, leggings, spats, gaiters, protective footwear, protective overalls, or any similar safety equipment or facility of a type that will effectively prevent bodily injury;
- waterproof clothing, high-visibility clothing, chemical-resistant clothing, low temperature clothing, chain mail garments, waders, fire retardant or flameproof clothing, ice-jackets, or any similar safety equipment of a type that will effectively protect the wearer thereof against harm;
- belts, harnesses, nets, fall arresters, life lines, safety hooks, or any similar equipment of a type that will effectively protect persons against falls;
- mats, barriers, locking-out devices, safety signs, or any similar facility that will effectively prevent slipping, unsafe entry or unsafe conditions;
- protective ointments, ear-muffs, earplugs, respirators, breathing apparatus, masks, air lines, hoods, helmets, or any similar safety equipment or facility of a type that will effectively protect against harm;
- suitable insulating material underfoot where persons work on a floor made of metal, stone, concrete or other similar material; and
- generally, such safety equipment or facilities as may be necessary to render the persons concerned safe.

Members are further reminded that where 5 or more employees are employed at a workplace the employer shall provide a first aid box which must be accessible for the treatment of injured persons at that workplace.

The first aid box must contain at least the following first aid equipment:-

- ❖ Wound cleaner / antiseptic (100ml)
- ❖ Swabs for cleaning wounds
- ❖ Cotton wool for padding (100g)
- ❖ Sterile gauze (minimum quantity 10)
- ❖ 1 pair of forceps (for splinters)
- ❖ 1 pair of scissors (minimum size 100 mm)
- ❖ 1 set of safety pins
- ❖ 4 triangular bandages
- ❖ 4 roller bandages (75mm x 5m)
- ❖ 4 roller bandages (100mm x 5m)
- ❖ 1 roll of elastic adhesive (25mm x 3m)
- ❖ 1 non-allergenic adhesive strip (25mm x 3m)
- ❖ 1 packet of adhesive dressing strips (minimum quantity, 10 assorted sizes)
- ❖ 4 first aid dressings (75mm x 100mm)]
- ❖ 4 first aid dressings (150mm x 200mm)
- ❖ 2 straight splints
- ❖ 2 pairs large and 2 pairs medium disposable latex gloves
- ❖ 2 CPR mouth pieces or similar devices

Where more than 10 employees are employed at a workplace the employer must ensure that, for every group of up to 50 workers on site, at least 1 person who is in possession of a valid certificate of competency, is readily available during normal working hours, to attend to the treatment of injured persons.

Please phone the office if you require further information in this regard.

OUTDSHOORN MUNICIPALITY

The Electrical Contracting Board recently received a request to establish whether or not an electrical contractor in Oudtshoorn was in fact properly registered at the ECB. From enquiries made by the ECB it transpired that the accredited person of the electrical contractor was in fact in the full-time employment of the Oudtshoorn Municipality.

The Municipality however confirmed that their employee had been given consent to do private work after hours and accordingly the ECB had now renewed his application for registration as an electrical contractor for 2008.