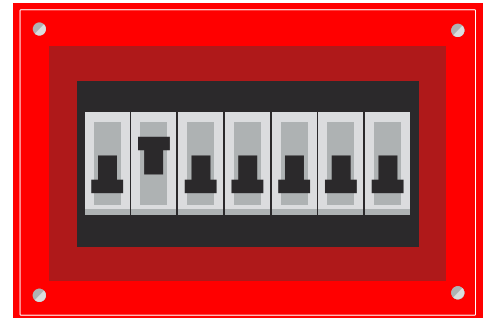


Periodic Verification



Check mate!

Faulty electrical installations result in a significant number of fires every year. Periodic verification of electrical systems and installations carried out in line with NZ Standard 3019 is a good way of ensuring an electrical system or installation is in a safe condition. This can help you stay on top of any issues before people get hurt or property is damaged.



Definition and application

Periodic verification is the inspection, checking, non-destructive testing and certification of existing electricals and/or their parts. It applies to installations connected to alternating current supplies (between 50V and 1000V a.c.).

Why it matters

Checks are carried out to confirm that installations are neither damaged nor deteriorated and that there are no dangerous defects. It also allows you to check that parts are safe for continued use to prevent fire and protect people from electric shock.

Three types of checks

Check	Overview
Basic visual inspection	Visual inspection – no physical testing required
Visual and limited testing	Basic visual inspection + tests completed with electrical supply remaining connected
Visual and full testing	Basic visual inspection + tests completed by disconnecting the electrical supply, including electrical insulation resistance testing Thermal imaging may be used to check the integrity of switchboard connections (your inspector will recommend a regimen that's right for you)

Inspectors and reporting

While any competent person can conduct periodic verification according to the standard for good practice (NZS 3019), we recommend working with a registered electrical inspector – you can search the **Electrical Workers Registration Board database** to find the right person for you.

- When verification is completed, your inspector will provide a certificate confirming:
- what was tested and found
- whether there are any limitations on the certificate
- if any repairs are required
- when your next periodic verification should take place.

If urgent repairs are flagged, these should be completed without delay.

When to carry out verification

System indicators:

- Evidence of defective connections, overloading, overheating, arcing, or fire
- Ageing or poor condition of wiring, socket outlets, fuses or switchboards
- Fittings with older-style barrel fuses or rewirable fuses
- Ongoing problems with fuses blowing, switches tripping or occupants receiving minor shocks

Business situation:

- Your installations or systems are aged 40+ years
- You have a high reliance on power supply for business operations
- There's been a major change in building occupation but no major upgrade to the electrical installation
- You're held liable by a third party for damages/losses should the supply fail

How frequently?

Regularity is key, both for verification and maintenance. The frequency boils down to a few factors, including the type of installation and equipment you have, what it's used for, and the environmental conditions for example

- a. corrosive atmosphere.

- **New installations or systems** – be guided by the manufacturer's recommendations
- **After the first verification** – typically your inspector will make a recommendation based on the results
- **Never completed or many years in between** – a visual inspection with limited testing at minimum

Indicative timings	Who or why
Every 4 years	Business premises
Every 10 years	Domestic dwellings
More frequently	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence of degradation• Where both high and low voltage installations co-exist• You have safety installations like emergency lights

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