STOP PRESS

News from HSE

Effective from the 1st September 2009, the Health and Safety Executive will be making guidance materials from the HSG; HSR; and L series - many of relevance to persons working on or close to electrical installations - available as freely downloadable PDF documents. In all HSE will make around 230 publications available, with some 50 or so of its most popular titles becoming freely available in ‘printer friendly’ format from 1 September. The remaining 180 or so publications will be converted to this format by 31 March 2010.

It is the view of the IET that many of these documents such as for example HSR 25 (Memorandum of guidance on the Electricity at Work Regulations 1989) are essential reading for all involved in work with electrical installations. As such this move to make such publications freely available is welcomed. Further details may be obtained from www.hse.gov.uk/news/2009/hse-books.htm

17th Edition Qualifications - The clock is ticking for Qualified Supervisors and Responsible Persons

The Electrotechnical assessment scheme (EAS) specification describes:

i) The minimum requirements for an enterprise (e.g. contractor) to be recognized by a certification body as competent to undertake electrical installation work, (design, construction, installation and verification) in England and Wales. It also includes the minimum technical competence requirements for enterprises to be considered competent to carry out electrical installation work in dwellings in accordance with Part P of the Building Regulations (Appendix 7).

ii) The competence requirements for registered qualified supervisors and responsible persons of the competent enterprises (Appendix 5)

iii) Particular requirements for compliance with the Scottish building standards (Appendix 8)

iv) Interpretation of the general requirements for bodies operating product certification (including process and service) schemes of EN 45011 (Appendix 9)

The Electrotechnical assessment specification has been prepared by a management committee that includes representatives of the competent person scheme providers, trade associations, the department for Communities and Local Government, the Electrical Safety Council and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). The IET has accepted ownership of the specification and provide administrative support to the management committee.

Updated in 2009, the document requires:

- Proposed Qualified Supervisors and Responsible Persons to hold an appropriate BS 7671: 2008 qualification awarded by a body regulated by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority or the Scottish Qualifications Authority within 12 months of acceptance by the Certification or Registration Body.

- Registered Qualified Supervisors and Responsible Persons to hold an appropriate BS 7671: 2008 qualification awarded by a body regulated by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority or the Scottish Qualifications Authority by the first surveillance visit after 31 December 2010, but by no later than 31 December 2011.

The IET course unit is currently offering discounts on courses including those for the 17th Edition. For further details, see the IET course advertisement inside the back cover in this issue of Wiring Matters or contact the IET courses unit directly.

Email: coursesreg@theiet.org
Tel: +44 (0)1438 767289 or Fax: +44 (0)1438 767291

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