Imperial College London

Code of Practice

Revision No: 3

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Electrical Equipment

The purpose of this document is to allow for the use of electrical appliances within college property without contravention of the Fire Regulations or compromising the safety of any building user. To enable this, the College requires that the following applies to all electrical devices used on College premises:

- All appliances and mains adaptors should be sourced from reliable suppliers and conform to current UK standards, i.e., are marked as 'UKCA'/'CE' compliant devices or are supplied with a Document of Conformity.

- They are tested regularly in accordance with the College Guidance Note on Electrical Testing produced by the College Central Safety Department https://www.imperial.ac.uk/safety/safety-by-topic/work-equipment/. This is best achieved by undertaking Portable Appliance Testing (PAT), which must be organised by departments and is not delivered under contract by the College's maintenance service suppliers. Where PAT testing is done, departments must ensure that the contractor or staff member undertaking the testing is qualified and competent.

- All extension cables with multiple sockets should conform to the current version of BS6396.

- Extension cables should only be used to their maximum permitted amps. Generally, this is 13 amps. All the appliances plugged into them, added together, should not exceed this value.

- Not used with faulty or 'daisy chained' extension cables (e.g. connecting multiple extension sockets together).

John Field
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