

RELAY

News for Electrical Contractors

Issue 35 · July 2017



NETWORK

Welcome to Issue 35 of RELAY. In this issue we talk about feedback from recent forums and portal sessions, where to go for information about Australian Standards Wiring Rules and working with asbestos.

Portal sessions well received

The recent round of portal sessions at our depots in the Greater Downs and Fitzroy regions were well received with contractors appreciating the opportunity for the informative and informal get together. Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy working day to attend. We've sent you all a survey that we would like you to complete to help us make further improvements.

There'll be another round of sessions in September/October focussing on the impacts of the Power of Choice metering reforms that come into place on 1 December 2017 and WILL impact the way you work. Look out for an invite in future issues of RELAY.

Hints and tips

We'd like to share some hints and tips that we received from electrical contractors at our recent forums and portal sessions held in the Toowoomba and Rockhampton areas:

- When making a new connection we highly recommend you talk to your customers about the benefits of installing a compatible meter for a controlled load or potential solar PV system installation in the future. This may save the customer money down the track
- If you're installing solar PV to an existing connection that has a controlled load that your customer wants removed please add the comment **Remove controlled load** in the *Additional Information About Request* section on the Form A. Otherwise, we'll assume that the controlled load remains. Please note the customer's retailer may charge a fee for the removal of this meter
- Please remember to click **SUBMIT** after you have completed your Form A or connection application on the Portal. If you don't they'll only be saved on your Portal page and not submitted to us.

When your Form A is submitted successfully a confirmation number will be sent to you - Form A confirmation numbers begin with EWR and connection applications with CX

- Please remember there are minimum spacing requirements for metering equipment. These requirements are listed in Table 7.1 in the **Queensland Electricity Connection and Metering Manual (QECMM)**. Compliance with the spacing requirements is essential given metering and equipment used by metering providers can change.

Table 7.1

Meter and Distributor Load Control Device Details	Height (mm)	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Approx. Weight (kg)
Single Phase Meter	255	150	130	1.5
Polyphase Meter	285	180	135	2.1
Distributor Load Control Device	190	110	110	0.5
Metering Isolation Link	90	45		

We always appreciate your feedback.

Email feedback to networkenquiries@ergon.com.au

Australian Standards advice

We're here to help when we can and if you have any questions about the **Queensland Electricity Connection and Metering Manual (QECMM)**, connections or alteration processes please call the Electrical Contractors Hotline 1800 237 466. For the best support regarding questions on AS/NZS 3000:2017 Wiring Rules and other Australian Standards please contact **Master Electricians Australia** (MEA) or the **Electrical Safety Office** (ESO) as this is outside our jurisdiction.

Working safely with asbestos

We've surveyed over 450,000 properties that were built before 31 Dec 2003 to identify suspected Asbestos switchboards. We found and labelled 81,000 properties with the warning below.



If you come across a switchboard that you suspect contains asbestos or has an asbestos warning label on it, please make sure you have the appropriate PPE and equipment to work safely on or in the vicinity of the switchboard. If you suspect a switchboard that is not labelled may contain asbestos please help us and make a note in the Additional information about request section on the Form A. And remember you must clean up any asbestos debris after you have finished your work so you don't leave a hazard for people that follow. For more on working with asbestos go to ergon.com.au/asbestos

Did you know switchboards that may contain asbestos are generally black or dark brown in colour and the surface may be rough and fibrous with a tarlike smell. Switchboard panels marked with Labah, Zelemite, Miscolite, or Ausbestos are all brand names of asbestos switchboard panels.

Electrical Contractors Hotline
7.30am to 4pm Monday to Friday

1800 237 466

Network general enquiries
13 74 66
7.00am - 6.30pm Monday to Friday

ergon.com.au

Faults only
13 22 96
24 hours a day,
7 days a week

Life-Threatening Emergencies
000 (Triple zero)
or 13 16 70
24 hours a day, 7 days a week

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