

ELECTRICITY SAFETY ALERT

WARNING: METERING ANTENNA MOUNTING BRACKET FOUND TO BE LIVE

Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) is investigating an incident in which a licensed electrician received an electric shock while working in the vicinity of electrical metering communications equipment.

The electrician received the shock while installing cables in a metallic duct located next to an electrical metering panel.

He made simultaneous contact with the metallic duct and a "live" metallic antenna mounting bracket associated with the metering communication equipment.

The antenna mounting bracket was fixed to the meter panel with two 23mm self-tapping metal screws. The screws protruded through the front and the rear of the meter panel and penetrated into the single insulation cables within the metering enclosure, therefore allowing the screws and the metal bracket to become "live".

This method of installation is contrary to the fundamental safety requirements of AS/NZS 3000:2000 in that the bracket should have been attached with insulated screws.

As a result of the screws penetrating the single insulated cable, the antenna mounting bracket was measured to be "live" at 247.9 VAC.

Metallic antenna mounting bracket fixed with metal screws should be treated as "live".

ESV estimates there are more than 5000 sites across Victoria where there may be similar installations.



Live antenna mounting bracket

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