



## What You Can Do To Keep Your Electrical System Safe



Focus your electrical preventive maintenance program on the most common and frequent problems leading to electrical fires and equipment failure. That includes inspection and preventive measures to ensure electrical apparatus is kept clean, cool, dry and tight.

### **Keep it clean**

- Electrical apparatus and equipment rooms should be free of excessive dust and dirt accumulation.
- Don't use electrical equipment rooms for storage.
- Limit access to authorized operations and maintenance personnel.
- Maintain proper lighting to ensure correct and efficient operation and maintenance.

### **Keep it cool**

- Prevent excessive heat buildup in electrical apparatus enclosures and equipment rooms. Exceeding design temperatures could be a fire hazard and can also shorten the life of equipment.
- Maintain cooling fans or blowers installed on equipment to provide adequate cooling.
- Keep ventilation openings in equipment enclosures clean and free from obstruction.
- Change or clean any installed filters according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

### **Keep it dry**

- Keep equipment rooms dry and protect equipment from moisture. Persistent exposure and direct contact with moisture can cause equipment to fail or shorten its life.
- Check equipment for moisture contamination. If found, examine equipment for damage and get necessary repairs made. Identify and eliminate the source of moisture.

### **Keep it tight**

- Loose connections are the most common source of electrical equipment failure.
- Loose connections also cause electrical current leakage. This results in having to pay higher monthly electrical bills.
- Check all connections and ensure they are kept tight.
- Follow any applicable manufacturer's instructions for tightening.
- Get an infrared imaging survey to test for loose connections.

### ***Where to begin with a maintenance program:***

The first step in conducting electrical equipment maintenance is following applicable jurisdictional code requirements and specific manufacturers' recommendations.

Regular and routine maintenance is extremely important. Preventive maintenance should be performed at least every three years or more often when conditions warrant.

Please remember, it takes qualified and competent maintenance personnel to properly, safely, and effectively maintain electrical equipment.

Electrical system maintenance increases safety, extends equipment life, lowers your utility bills and decreases losses which can often be catastrophic.