

Installation Inspection Service



Representing the best in electrical
engineering and building services



INSTALLATION INSPECTION SERVICE

The ECA represents the interests of companies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland who have responsibility for designing & installing the electrical engineering services needed in homes, schools, hospitals, factories, industrial plant and commercial premises.

These installations include traditional power and lighting outlets together with complex technology in control, security safety, and data communications systems for automated offices, industrial plant and environmental services.

The aim of the ECA is to ensure that electrical installation work at every level, whether domestic, commercial or

industrial is undertaken by qualified people to high standards of quality and safety.

To support this aim, the ECA has a UKAS accredited Inspection Body established in 2001 comprising of a team of Electrical Engineers who can provide an independent, professional inspection of electrical installation work.

Should an inspection be required, an Electrical Engineer from the Inspection & Assessment Team will be appointed to inspect and provide a written report on the work. The inspection report will identify where, if at all, the work fails to meet the relevant technical standards.

THESE COMMON QUESTIONS PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE INSTALLATION INSPECTION SERVICE

Q What is an Installation Inspection?

A An independent professional inspection of an electrical installation that incorporates the 'Inspection on Demand' service.

Q What constitutes an electrical installation?

A Any electrical, voice/data communications, security systems and fire detection and alarm systems are deemed electrical installations which are covered by the Installation Inspection service.

Q Why might someone request an Installation Inspection?

A Someone may request an inspection where:

- The client has reason to believe that the work completed may not comply with current standards
- The client is unsure about electrical contracting and is looking for reassurance that the work complies with the current standards
- The client is seeking an interpretation of compliance for a specific item within their electrical installation

Q Who can request an Installation Inspection?

A An inspection may be requested by:

- An ECA member
- A client who has employed the services of an ECA member.
- Any person(s) or enterprise that requires an independent inspection of their electrical installation.

Q Does the Installation Inspection confirm that the electrical work meets the client's specification?

A No. The inspection shall only establish, without regard to any individual specification or other contractual requirements, whether or not the work inspected complies with the relevant applicable standards.

Q Can the Installation Inspection be requested any time after the initial work has been completed?

A A request for inspection will only be accepted if it is made before the expiry of the defects liability period, or 12 months from practical completion of the work if no defects liability period is stipulated in the contract. Beyond this period any request for an inspection of an ECA members' work will be dealt with under the ECA's warranty scheme.

Q Can an Installation Inspection be requested on an installation that has, subsequent to initial completion, been altered by others?

A An inspection can take place but any remedial work required may not be covered by any warranties.

Q What happens should the inspection reveal non-compliances?

A Should work completed by an ECA member fail to meet the relevant standards, the member is responsible for undertaking any necessary remedial work. Work not undertaken by an ECA member will be subject to the client arranging their own remedial actions on receipt of the report.

Q Can a request for an Installation Inspection be made without the contractor's agreement?

A Yes. However, prior to an inspection being undertaken, the client would be expected to advise the contractor of their intent - where the contractor is known. Should an ECA member have completed the work the inspection team will inform the member prior to an inspection being undertaken

Q Can a contractor request an Installation Inspection without the client's agreement?

A No. The client's agreement to the inspection is required in all circumstances for legal reasons.

Q Who pays for the Installation Inspection?

A

- Where a client has employed the services of an ECA Member, the inspection will normally be free of charge. However, should the inspection show that the client did not have reasonable doubt that the work did not comply, then a charge may be levied at the prevailing rate.
- Any person(s) or enterprise, who requires an independent inspection of their electrical installation carried out by a non-ECA Member, will be required to pay the costs of inspection at the prevailing rates or by way of quotation.

Q How do I obtain an Installation Inspection?

A

- A client employing the services of an ECA member should in the first instance contact the ECA Membership Secretary:
Electrical Contractors' Association,
ESCA House, 34 Palace Court,
London W2 4HY
Tel: 020 7313 4800
Fax: 020 7221 7344
Email: membership@eca.co.uk
- A current ECA member or a client employing the services of a non-ECA member, simply contact the EIAS Technical Manager:
ECA Inspection and Assessment Services
Mansfield Business Centre,
Ashfield Avenue,
Mansfield NG18 2AE
Tel: 01623 404 515
Fax: 01623 404 501
Email: technical.assessment@eca.co.uk



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