

**Extract from Cinematograph (Safety) Regulations 1955**

**Regulation 20**

20.— Fuses, switches and earths

(1) Every electrical main circuit and sub-circuit in the premises shall be protected against excess current by fuses, circuitbreakers or other similar devices which will operate automatically at current values which are suitably related to the safe current ratings of the circuit and of the equipment connected to the circuit.

(2)

(a) Every circuit supplying electricity for the control equipment of electric discharge-lamps having a rated electrical input exceeding 500 watts, or for electronic equipment shall, where the fuses, circuit-breakers or other similar devices aforesaid do not afford adequate protection, be provided also with electrical or thermo-electrical devices to break the circuit automatically on any dangerous rise in the temperature of the said equipment or of the transformers, chokes or smoothing devices used in connection therewith.

(b) Any such electrical or thermo-electrical devices shall be tested once a year by a competent electrical engineer appointed by, or on behalf of, the occupier of the premises.

(c) The foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall not, until the first day of January 1958, apply in relation to electronic equipment or control equipment of electric discharge-lamps in use in the premises before the date on which these Regulations come into operation.

(3)

(a) Every main circuit and sub-circuit in the premises shall be provided with earth-leakage protective devices which on the occurrence of an earth fault will disconnect the defective circuit from the supply of electricity.

(b) Sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph shall not apply where the possible earth fault leakage current from the circuit substantially exceeds that required to operate the fuses, circuit-breakers or other similar devices aforesaid.

(4) All metal work not intended ordinarily to conduct electricity but liable to become charged with electricity if the insulation of a conductor should become defective or if a defect should occur in any electrical equipment shall be earthed.

(5) The supply of electricity to all electric signs, notices or advertising devices and to all electric discharge-lamp installations shall be capable of being cut off by switches or other means of control so situated as to be easily accessible to members of the staff but so as not to be easily accessible to the public.

(6)

(a) Every socket outlet, other than for deaf aids, in any part of the premises to which the public are admitted shall be controlled by a switch adjacent to the socket outlet.

(b) All plugs and socket outlets, other than for deaf aids, in any part of the premises to which the public are admitted shall be so constructed that the pins of the plugs and the socket outlets cannot be touched while they are live.

(7) Switchgear controlling a main circuit or sub-circuit, and not being in the auditorium, shall be clearly and legibly labelled to indicate which circuit it controls.

## Regulation 22

### 22.— Wiring and ventilating ducts

- (1) All electric wiring shall be suitably insulated.
- (2) All electric wiring shall have a protective covering over the insulation thereof and, except where it is necessary that it should remain flexible, shall be kept securely fixed in position.
- (3) The protective covering shall be—
  - (a) made of metal or other material of such rigidity as to afford substantial protection against mechanical injury;
  - (b) made of material which does not readily ignite or decompose:
  - (c) if made of metal, effectively earthed:
  - (d) in the case of wiring in premises which are built or wholly or mainly rewired after the date on which these Regulations come into operation, not made of lead.
- (4) Where it is necessary for wiring to remain flexible its protective covering shall be flexible and the following provisions shall apply in lieu of the provisions of paragraph (3) of this Regulation: —
  - (a) the protective covering of such wiring used in connection with arc lamps, spotlights, effects lamps or other electrical equipment for the production of lighting or optical effects and exposed to excessive heat shall be of asbestos or other material which will prevent the heat damaging the conductor or its insulation;
  - (b) the protective covering of such wiring, other than that referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph shall be such as to give a degree of protection not less than that afforded by tough rubber sheathing;
  - (c) the protective covering of such wiring shall not be made of lead, and if made of metal, shall be effectively earthed;
  - (d) such wiring shall not be longer than is necessary;
  - (e) such wiring shall be securely fixed, and its protective covering reinforced, at the point of entry into the equipment, plug or other fitting to which it is connected.
- (5) The foregoing provisions of this Regulation shall not apply to such parts of the conductors mentioned in paragraph (3) of Regulation 18 of these Regulations connecting the batteries one to another or connecting the batteries to the fuses, circuitbreakers or other similar devices protecting the outgoing circuits, as are situated within the room in which the batteries are installed.
- (6) The provisions of paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) of this Regulation shall not apply to—
  - (a) wiring, intended to conduct only electricity of low energy, of telephones, signal systems, deaf aids, public address equipment, depolarizer circuits for electric torch batteries and other similar equipment;
  - (b) audio circuit wiring;
  - (c) internal wiring of electric organs not intended to conduct electricity at a voltage exceeding 100 volts;
  - (d) conductors for electric discharge-lamp installations in which the voltage between any two points of the installation exceeds 650 volts if the conductors are so placed that they cannot be touched by the public and are suitably insulated and protected;

(e) temporary wiring if the licensing authority is satisfied that the wiring is so insulated and so protected or placed as to be reasonably safe in the circumstances.

(7) No electric wiring, other than wiring for the purpose of operating or lighting the ventilating system and having its own protective covering, shall, after the date upon which these Regulations come into operation, be placed (otherwise than by way of repair of wiring already installed) in any ventilating duct.

(8) Any lighting fittings or other electrical apparatus installed in any ventilating duct after the date upon which these Regulations come into operation shall be totally enclosed.

## **Regulation 25**

### 25. Electrical apparatus generally

Electrical apparatus and equipment in the premises shall not be used for such a purpose or in such a manner or when it is in such a condition as to cause danger of electric shock, fire or explosion.