

## **INFORMATION FOR ELECTRICAL PRODUCT RETAILERS**

### **What are the basic Safety Requirements?**

All electrical appliances sold in New Zealand must be safe.

A base requirement of Electricity Regulation 69, is that all electrical equipment is safe, and offence provisions of Electricity Regulation 100(a) states "Every person commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 who,—

(a) Manufactures, designs, constructs, installs, sells, hires out, or leases out, any works, electrical installation, fittings, electrical appliance, or associated equipment that is not electrically safe;"

### **Meeting Basic Safety Requirements**

We advise that retailers obtain for its assurance and records, copies of any, recognised approval certification and/or recognised evidence of compliance with the relevant AS/NZS safety standard, that support compliance with essential safety. If this documentation is unavailable from your supplier, then it would be wise to have the products that you sell tested to the appropriate New Zealand Standard.

### **The Supplier Declaration of Compliance Process**

Certain products that are considered to be 'medium risk' are required to meet the above requirements and also require a Supplier Declaration of Compliance to be made prior to offering the product for sale in New Zealand. A supplier declaration is a statement by the supplier that the product they are supplying into New Zealand is safe and that the supplier accepts responsibility for that product. The Supplier Declaration of Compliance must state a valid reason why the product complies with Electricity Regulation 69. This reasoning should be the supporting documentation which ensures compliance with the above base requirements and must be listed on the "Supplier Declaration of Compliance" form. Such documentation should be checked against the product being supplied, e.g. description, type/model numbers, expiry dates, etc. If you are a retailer or an installer and have been supplied with an electrical appliance from a New Zealand supplier then the law requires that the appliance or fitting has a supplier declaration of compliance. If such evidence cannot be demonstrated by you or your supplier, it would be prudent not to install the product or offer the product for sale in New Zealand, or alternatively independently undertake any process necessary, to ensure the product meets regulatory requirements. It is in your best interests to be satisfied that a valid supplier declaration has been made before selling or installing the product. You should ask for a copy of the supplier declaration form and retain a copy of it for your records. This will provide you with evidence from the supplier that, as far as they are concerned, safety and compliance requirements associated with the electrical appliance have been met

### **Declared Articles and Formal Approvals**

Certain products are considered to be 'high risk', these are Declared Articles and in addition to all the above requirements, they must be formally approved for sale in New Zealand. Energy Safety Service approval (or recognised certification) is required for the specific list of declared articles before these can be legally sold in New Zealand.

### **Enforcement by ESS**

The Energy Safety Service maintains a proactive capacity to monitor activity and to investigate those cases where it is suspected that illegal activity has, or is, taking place. The purpose is to ensure community safety, and to provide enforcement action to those who indulge in illegal activities and to deter others from that approach.

### **Further Information**

Further details including current listing of Declared Articles and Supplier Declaration Articles, can be found on the ESS website [www.ess.govt.nz](http://www.ess.govt.nz)

