

ELSÄK-FS  
2006:1

# The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board's regulations and general advice

on electrical safety for work in professional  
activity

The original Swedish text shall take preference should  
any doubt concerning interpretation arise.



ELSÄKERHETSVERKET

The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board's  
regulations and general advice on electrical safety for  
work in professional activity

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# The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board Statute book

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## The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board regulations and general advice on electrical safety for work in professional activity;

adopted on 2 February 2006.

Under authority of Chapter 1, 2 § Ordinance (1957:601) on electrical installations, the Swedish National Electrical Safety Board brings the following Regulations into force and determines the following general advice.

### General provisions

#### Area of application

1 § These regulations apply to work in professional activity on or in the vicinity of electrical installations and electrical equipment that give rise to electrical danger to those involved in the work. The term electrical danger means the risk of personal injury due to electric shock or the effect of short circuit or arcing.

The regulations do not apply to work on aircraft or vessels other than pleasure boats.

The term installation is used in these regulations as a collective name for electrical installations and electrical equipment.

#### Good electrical safety practice

2 § When work is being done where there is electrical danger, precautions shall be taken in accordance with good electrical safety practice, so that adequate safety will be achieved for those involved in the work. The safety measures shall be based on a risk assessment.

**3 §** Anyone who applies safety measures during work, which follow a standard or practice other than Swedish Standard shall document his or her risk assessment and issue instructions. The instructions shall give order to those who are to carry out the work, concerning safety measures that shall be taken. This also applies if a Swedish Standard must be supplemented with regard to the nature of the work.

## Safety requirements

### Knowledge and training

**4 §** Anyone who works where there is electrical danger shall have knowledge of the implications and consequences of the danger and shall have received training in the safety measures which are motivated for the tasks concerned.

### Electrical safety planning

**5 §** Electrical safety planning shall be made for every work that involves electrical danger. The planning shall include nominating a person or persons who shall ensure that safety measures will be taken.

The person who carries out planning shall have such knowledge that the planning will provide adequate safety against electrical danger.

### Safety measures

**6 §** When work is being done on a disconnected installation, safety measures shall be taken to ensure that the installation will remain disconnected and dead as long as work is in progress.

**7 §** When work is being done on or in the vicinity of a live installation, safety measures shall be taken to prevent those who are involved in the work from being injured by electric shock, or the effect of arcing or short circuit.

## Exceptions to the Regulations

8 § The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board can grant exceptions to these regulations.

### Coming into force

These regulations will come into force on 1 July 2006.

GUNNEL FÄRM

Horst Blüchert

## The Swedish National Electrical Safety Boards general advice<sup>1</sup> on the use of these regulations on electrical safety for work in professional activity

Ref. 1 §            These regulations apply regardless of when the installation was taken into use.

According to the Electricity Act (1997:857) and the Ordinance (1957:601) on Electrical installations, the owner of the installation has an overall responsibility for the installation, its state and operation. According to this overall responsibility, the persons who are engaged on the operation of the installation shall be suitable for these duties (Chapter 11, 2 § of the Ordinance). These regulations include provisions that supplement the working environment legislation with safety measures for situations in which there is electrical danger.

These regulations may also come into force for work on an installation that is in under construction or demolition, if it may become energized by other installations due to its position or its large size.

Electric shock may occur, for instance,

- by touching bare live part,
- at high voltage, within the danger zone,
- when touching a conductive part which has become live due to a fault, and
- on contact of a conductive part that has become live due to induction (voltage induced due to magnetic fields) or influence (voltage arisen due to electrical fields).

An arc may occur, for example

- when an electric switching device is operated,
- when static electricity is discharged and
- in the event of a short circuit

<sup>1</sup> General recommendations comprises such general advices on the use of a statute that indicate to some extent how someone may or ought to act.

A short circuit can give rise to thermal and mechanical effects.

Provisions concerning safety when work is carried out on board ship and aircraft have been issued by the Swedish Maritime Administration and the Swedish Civil Aviation Administration respectively

Ref. 2 §

Work in accordance with good electrical safety practice follows a safety level that has been established in the field of electrical safety. Good electrical safety practice consists of Regulations on electrical safety for work in professional activity and to established standards. Swedish Standard is normally regarded as providing adequate safety at work.

A risk assessment consists of a risk analysis and a risk evaluation. The method for and extent of a risk assessment must be determined with regard to the circumstances.

Even if an established standard is used, the Swedish National Electrical Safety Board has the authorization to take action if adequate safety has not been achieved from the electrical safety aspect. This authorization is pursuant to Chapter 12, 2-5 §§ of the Electricity Act, and Chapter 12, 6 § of the ordinance on electrical installations.

Ref. 3 §

Knowledge and training must be updated regularly.

Ref. 4 §

Electrical safety planning should include

- obtaining information on the installation and its location,
- identifying the workplace,
- identifying the risk sources,
- selecting the way of working,
- planning the necessary operational measures,
- planning the safety measures and
- informing everyone who participates in the work about the safety measures.

Electrical safety planning must take into account whether the owner of the installation has issued instructions for preventing injuries caused by electricity.

Planning may be adapted to the extent of the work and the necessary safety measures. If only simple measures are needed, the planning can be simple.



## Translation of terms

Allmänna råd	-	General advice
Tillämpningsområde	-	Area of application
Yrkesmässig verksamhet	-	Professional activity
Elektrisk fara	-	Electrical danger
Anvisningar	-	Instructions
Betyggande säkerhet	-	Adequate safety
Elektriska starkströmsanläggningar	-	Electrical installations
Elektriska anordningar	-	Electrical equipment

Note that Elsäkerhetsverket is the Swedish name for The Swedish National Electrical Safety Board



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