**RESIDUAL CURRENT DEVICES FACTSHEET**

In accordance with Clause 164 of the WHS Regulation 2011 an organisation must ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, for the circumstances listed below, that any electrical risk associated with the supply of electricity to the electrical equipment through a socket outlet (not exceeding 20A) is minimised by the use of an appropriate residual current device (RCD must have a

tripping current that does not exceed 30mA):

Use of equipment in a hostile environment where the normal use of electrical equipment exposes the equipment to operating conditions that are likely to result in damage to the equipment or a reduction in its expected life span, including conditions that involve exposure to moisture, heat, vibration, mechanical damage, corrosive chemicals or dust

Electrical equipment is moved between different locations in circumstances where damage to the equipment or to a flexible electricity supply cord is reasonably likely

Electrical equipment is frequently moved during its normal use

Electrical equipment forms part of, or is used in connection with, an amusement device

Common examples of electrical equipment requiring an RCD include:

Hand-held electrical equipment, for example drills, saws, hair dryers, curling wands and electric knives

Electrical equipment that is moved while in operation, including jackhammers, electric lawn mowers, floor polishers and extension cords

Electrical equipment that is moved between jobs in ways that could result in damage to the equipment, for example electric welders, electric cement mixers, portable bench saws and extension cords

Generally it is anticipated that ADE environments will have RCDs built into the switchboard or power point, but if this is not the case, that hand held equipment will be protected by a RCD. Upgrades of the electrical system or move to new premises will require the RCD to be built into the switchboard.

Organisations providing accommodation support or in-home support should undertake a risk assessment to determine if the environment meets the definition of high risk environment, to determine if a RCD is required e.g. if there are challenging or other behaviours which may cause damage to equipment or result in wet environments etc. Results of risk assessment should be documented and risk assessment repeated regularly.

Where electrical equipment is provided by the disability service organisation, a RCD should also be provided.

Workers should receive training in the use of the equipment and in testing procedures.

Schedule for annual(at a minimum) testing and recalibration of RCD by a competent person should be implemented. This could be conducted in line with any testing and tagging undertaken depending on risk level of workplace.