



What's it all about?

What is Portable Appliance Testing?

Portable Appliance Testing is Inspection and Testing of In-Service Electrical equipment (usually referred to as PAT).

Who is responsible?

The employer or person having control of a business premises is responsible for complying with legislation in relation to both health and safety of its employees and personnel using equipment on site.

The standards are in place to prevent:

- Electrocution of persons working on an electrical system or using an electrical appliance.
- Electrical fires or explosions which can seriously disrupt the operation of the business.

Do I need my portable electrical appliances tested?

To comply with the Electricity at Work Regulations all portable electrical appliances should be routinely inspected and tested by a competent person. The regulations apply equally to small companies, the self employed and to large organisations.

What electrical equipment needs to be tested?

The regulations cover all items of in-service electrical equipment, this includes all movable items connected to the mains supply by 13A BS1363 plugs, BS EN60309-2 industrial plugs, or hard wired via a fused connection unit. In addition to being responsible for the safety of their own portable appliances, companies are responsible for the safety of electrical equipment brought on site by employees and contractors.

What is involved in the tests?

The testing consists of two separate activities, namely a visual inspection to check for damage and poor electrical standards and a series of instrumental tests to check for less obvious electrical faults.

What the test covers

Portable appliance testing includes a thorough visual inspection of the appliance to check for:

- Damage to the flex.
- Damage to the plug and casing (overheating, burn marks, discolouration).
- An incorrectly wired plug.
- An incorrectly rated fuse.

A series of tests are then performed. Depending on the class of equipment, they may include:

- Earth continuity testing.
- Insulation resistance.
- Flex polarity test.
- Earth leakage test.
- Operation test.

All appliances need to be unplugged for testing

Testing can be carried out outside of normal working hours ensuring there is no effect on the staff productivity.

Tested appliances are all labelled with the result of the test (pass or fail). Any remedial work will be reported to the responsible person and minor repairs can be carried out on site (repairing plugs/fuses etc).

Our Service...

- Free site survey and quote.
- Non - commission based engineers.
- All required tests on the latest PAT testing equipment.
- Pass or Fail labels.
- Barcoded appliance ID system.
- Equipment registers.
- Fuse replacement.
- Plug rewiring.
- Plug replacement if necessary.