



**Summary of reported electrical
accidents for which the
investigation was completed
between January and September
2009**

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This is the list of the 6 electricity and the 5 electrical fire notifiable accidents reported to Energy Safety for which the investigation was completed between January and March 2009

The electricity notifiable accidents

Event ID:	081114-03
Event summary	Factory worker received an electric shock while operating a bag sewing machine.
Event date	11/11/2008
Site	Industrial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Hand Held motor operated tools
Event	Burns
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock, Burn
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	On investigation the machine was found to be faulty. There was an unauthorised repair made on the machine. The person who made the repairs could not be identified. The company involved replaced the machine.
Event ID:	090116-01
Event summary	A car hit a wood power pole and brought down the 11000v overhead line in Blenheim. On exiting the car two adults and child received electric shocks. One adult died while the other adult received burns and critical injuries.
Event date	22/11/2008
Site	Works or Distribution
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	11000
Equipment	Pole
Event	Burns
Casualty	Fatality
Injury	Shock, Burn
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	On investigation it was found that the car was carrying two adults and three children. The two adults were getting themselves and a child out of the car when they touched the dangling wires and received electric shocks. The two other children were brought to safety by a neighbour.
Event ID:	081126-01
Event summary	While working in a kiwifruit orchard a vine worker received an electric shock.
Event date	25/11/2008
Site	Commercial
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	11000
Equipment	Other
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The worker was pruning kiwifruit approximately 10 metres from a steel support riser pole. The riser pole was installed in close proximity to an 11kV line running through the orchard.

During a windy condition the lines contacted the riser pole. Flashover marks indicate that the meshed wire kiwifruit support structures would have been momentarily livened.

As a result the worker received an electric shock and was knocked over. The offending riser poles were removed and arrangements were made to raise the height of the overhead line.

Event ID:	081216-02
Event summary	Energy Safety was notified of an incident which resulted with a child allegedly receiving a shock from a control light/fan switch in the bathroom area of an accommodation complex within a holiday park.
Event date	16/12/2008
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	400
Equipment	Light switch
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	Energy Safety carried out a site visit with an investigation into the control/light switches. There are approximately 45 sleeping cabins with en suite bathrooms within the complex that have a single intermediate switch rated at 250volts controlling a light and an extractor fan system. The switches have been installed with two phases (400volts) across the switch contacts which have resulted in the switches breaking down over period of time and arching across the two phases when the switch is operated. An electrician has been contracted to reconfigure the two phase installation and replace the switches.

Event ID:	081219-01
Event summary	A lineman suffered electric shock and burns to his hands.
Event date	16/12/2008
Site	Works or Distribution
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	230
Equipment	Mains
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The lineman was attempting to lift up and secure a low hanging overhead low voltage conductor on a private service main to an old woolshed. Two phase broken conductors were wound together around the pole and one of these was alive. The lineman who was working alone did not test prior to carrying out work. DoL investigated the accident.

Event ID:	090306-03
Event summary	A serious injury occurred to the face of a juicer appliance's user, due to a mechanical failure of that appliance.
Event date	04/03/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Kitchen machines; Blenders; Mixers
Event	Non Compliant Equipment
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Mechanical
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The subsequent Energy Safety investigation was unable to reliably confirm the cause of mechanical failure from a detailed examination of the remains. As the accident was the only incident attributed to this model of Juicer, that was about 7 years old and it was considered to be an isolated incident by the supplier. Energy Safety in this case is to maintain a watching brief for any similar incidents with respect to this model and other models of Juicer using similar construction. Any action necessary from such a future event, will take into consideration the circumstances and injuries sustained in this accident

The electrical fire notifiable accidents

Event ID:	080414-02
Event summary	House fire causing major loss, the origin of the fire in the vicinity of switchboard.
Event date	11/04/2008
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	TPS Cable
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to the room and structure containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	An investigation determined that a lighting cable had been trapped under a staircase a number of years ago which had been crushed as the years went on eventually causing the cable to fault and set fire to timber under the stairs.

Event ID:	090106-01
Event summary	A fire in a deep fry vat at fish and chip shop caused substantial smoke damage with a small amount of structural damage.
Event date	06/01/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Commercial deep fat fryers
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Due to the extensive damage to the vat's control equipment the exact cause of the fire was undetermined. The cause is believed to be an electrical failure within the vats electrical control contactor.

Event ID:	090209-02
Event summary	Small fire in spa bath motor.
Event date	09/02/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Spas; whirlpool baths
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The spa pump motor may have failed as a result of a bearing failure or blockage in the pump, the body of the pump and motor were destroyed during the fire. Energy Safety have not had other reports of this type of failure.

Event ID:	090213-02
Event summary	A water cooler faulted causing a small fire in the kitchen of a house.
Event date	13/02/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The water cooler was operating when it appeared to have an electrical fault causing the internal parts to catch fire and emit smoke, the plastic body of the cooler melted. The fire was restricted to the appliance and only caused smoke damage.

Event ID:	090309-01
Event summary	Cooking vat full of oil was left on over night un attended and caught fire causing damage to building.
Event date	06/03/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Commercial deep fat fryers
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The cooking appliance contained cooking oil and was left switched on with no one in attendance, fire service will be speaking to the company.

This is the list of the 7 electricity and the 15 electrical fire notifiable accidents reported to Energy Safety for which the investigation was completed between April and June 2009

The electricity notifiable accidents

Event ID:	081230-01
Event summary	A man has been found dead at the scene of the accident, underneath his service line power cables.
Event date	30/12/2008
Site	Domestic
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	230
Equipment	Sander
Event	Other/Unknown (Electrical)
Casualty	Fatality
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	A homeowner was using a portable electrical sander. He was working on the barge board close to the overhead mains in the vicinity of the entry point of the mains to the house. It is likely that he may have contacted the mains and received a fatal electric shock but this has not been confirmed.
Event ID:	090213-01
Event summary	The pins on a night light pushed back into the internal printed circuit board when it was being plugged into a socket outlet. Audit of compliance documentation and basis of safety scheduled.
Event date	12/02/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Other/Unknown (Electrical)
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	Other lights were looked at but no issues were found, further audits will be carried out on this type of light.
Event ID:	090216-01
Event summary	A transmission cable came down on a house causing damage to the roof and electrical installation.
Event date	13/02/2009
Site	Works or Distribution
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	220000
Equipment	Overhead lines
Event	Other/Unknown (Electrical)
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Power line joint failed as a result of failure to correctly assemble joint prior to crimping. The company has tested all joints in the circuit and has not found any other suspect joints.

Event ID:	090420-01
Event summary	A home owner received an electric shock from a cordless kettle when making tea.
Event date	08/04/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Liquid heating; Kettles; Urns
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The electric kettle had all the approval documents for safety, the kettle was not available for inspection so the cause of the shock could not be determined. The company who sold the kettle did not follow the normal procedure when dealing with a safety issue and have re trained the person responsible.

Event ID:	090428-04
Event summary	While the victim was attempting to connect a foreign type cell phone charger with incompatible plug pins that required the use of an illegal travel adaptor into a New Zealand socket-outlet, the travel adaptor came apart exposing live parts that resulting in the victim receiving an electric shock.
Event date	28/04/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	Following sale of a new mobile phone from an internet based supplier, an electric shock was received by a clerical worker, who had direct contact with live parts of a foreign travel adaptor, supplied with the new mobile phone and charger. The travel adaptor fell apart whilst being connected to a socket-outlet under a desk. The phone charger was not intended for use in NZ and was non-compliant with the Electricity Regulations; likewise the Travel adaptor supplied was non-compliant with the Electricity Regulations, including those in respect to unsafe electrical fittings and appliances. Referred to Energy Safety Compliance officer, with a recommendation for prosecution.

Event ID:	090518-07
Event summary	Energy Safety was notified by a network contractor with regards to a home owner receiving a minor electric shock from their external metallic meter board.
Event date	16/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	400
Equipment	Overhead lines
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	No casualty

Injury	No injury
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The network contractor sent a faultman to the premise after receiving notice of a fault where the home owner had received an electric shock, after investigating the their power problems, on an external metallic meter board. The faultman found a broken neutral connection on the network side of the line and made repairs.

Event ID:	090527-01
Event summary	A power line came down during a storm and touched a wire fence and a member of the public touched the fence and received an electric shock.
Event date	16/05/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	400
Equipment	Overhead lines
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The line fell down during a storm and contacted a wire fence. The power company supplied details of maintenance for the lines which complied with regulations.

Electrical fire notifiable accidents

Event ID:	090401-01
Event summary	A bathroom fan heater caught fire.
Event date	17/03/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Room Heaters; Fan heaters; Radiant Heaters; Oil Fin
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	On investigation it was found that the fire was caused by a fan heater. Full details of the heater were not available and no further action was taken. The damage was confined to the heater area.

Event ID:	090329-02
Event summary	Electrical arcing in a garage metal cladding, the garage was detached from house and showed signs of arcing on metal cladding. Network company will send faultman to site to look at network connections.
Event date	28/03/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Control / Safety Device
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment

Outcome of investigation Several fires in garages located between two houses were caused by a broken neutral in a mains entry box. It appears that the metal cladding on the houses was acting as the return path for the installation which caused building paper in the roof to catch fire. The houses involved were inspected and no other faults found with the installations.

Event ID:	090402-02
Event summary	Fire in spray booth notified by NZFS, the spray booth was switched off at the time of the fire.
Event date	01/04/2009
Site	Industrial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Equipment under 60204 classification
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Case investigated by DoL. Not believed to be electrically related.

Event ID:	090404-01
Event summary	A fire in a bedroom resulted in the death of an elderly person.
Event date	4/04/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	Fatality
Injury	Burn, Asphyxiation
Property damage level	Extended to the site
Outcome of investigation	On investigation it was found that they were three multi-boxes daisy-chained together. The multi-boxes were supplying a dehumidifier and other small devices. The fire had started in first multi-box connected to the outlet on the wall.

Event ID:	090415-01
Event summary	A fire occurred in the vicinity of a bedside cabinet placed over electrical cabling.
Event date	14/04/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Other/Unknown (Electrical)
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The bedside cabinet was placed over the supply cord for a baby monitor unit. The supply cord developed a short which resulted in fire confined to the cabinet area.

Event ID:	090425-01
Event summary	Fire Service attended a call for electrical equipment arcing in a rental property. The Fire Service was concerned with the electrical installation and notified Energy Safety.
Event date	25/04/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Fixed general purpose
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The landlord's maintenance electrician was called for remedial work, which was carried out on the immediate dangers within the electrical installation. A report outlining other concerns with the electrical installation was then sent to Energy Safety. The property owner was contacted by Energy Safety with details of the unsafe electrical installation and remedial work was completed by their electrician.

Event ID:	090504-02
Event summary	A house truck suffered minor damage to the underside when a cable termination faulted during a storm.
Event date	04/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Caravan
Voltage	230
Equipment	TPS Cable
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The house truck had been parked up for a number of years and it appears that water may have entered a lead termination causing a small fire under the truck which caused minor damage.

Event ID:	090609-01
Event summary	Multi box caused fire in house.
Event date	8/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	61558 General
Event	Other/Unknown (Electrical)
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Multi box was covered with clothing and had power supplies plugged in at the time, possibly causing power supplies to set fire to clothing.

Event ID:	090528-04
Event summary	Fire in the main switchboard in an industrial location involving the 400A fuse isolator.
Event date	28/05/2009
Site	Industrial
Environment	Building
Voltage	400
Equipment	Circuit breaker
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire in the main switchboard in a industrial location involving the 400A fuse isolator. Damage to switchboard contained in the switchroom.

Event ID:	090529-01
Event summary	The Fire Service attended a switch board fire within a domestic dwelling. Energy Safety was notified through concerns raised by the power board faultman's comments, who was also in attendance, as to the common occurrence of this type of incident.
Event date	29/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Switch/distribution board
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	It appears the probable cause of this incident was a loose connection onto the main switch circuit breaker. A new switch board had to be installed for the remedial work. The event has been noted for trend analysis.

Event ID:	090606-01
Event summary	Fire Service reported house fire where incandescent downlight fitting believed to be source of fire.
Event date	06/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Fixed general purpose
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The cause of the fire could not be determined, the fitting and wiring was examined by an electrical inspector who could not find any cause due to the extent of the damage to the light fitting. The circuit was protected by an RCD which tripped during the fire.

Event ID:	090609-02
Event summary	Total loss house fire, no evidence left at scene.
Event date	08/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Control / Safety Device
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to the site
Outcome of investigation	Total loss house fire, no evidence left at scene, the occupants stated that there was a smell of plastic when they left the property. Fire service notified Energy Safety just for information.

Event ID:	090609-03
Event summary	Major loss house fire started in small office.
Event date	88/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to the site
Outcome of investigation	Due to the extent of the damage it was not possible to determine the cause of the fire, however at the time the fire started a computer and fan heater were plugged into an EPOD.

Event ID:	090612-01
Event summary	The occupants in the house saw the dehumidifier on fire.
Event date	12/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Heat pumps; air-conditioners; dehumidifiers
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The occupants in the house saw the dehumidifier on fire. The dehumidifier was completely destroyed and the make and model could not be identified. The dehumidifier was approximately 7 years old. Fire contained in the room with the dehumidifier smoke damage to other parts of the building.

Event ID:	090617-01
Event summary	Bathroom fan heater caught fire melted and dropped down onto floor damaging the lino floor.
Event date	16/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire

Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	An investigation could not determine the cause of the fault in the fan heater.

This is the list of the 5 electricity and the 18 electrical fire notifiable accidents reported to Energy Safety for which the investigation was completed between July and September 2009

Electricity notifiable accidents

Event ID:	090527-02
Event summary	A person received an electric shock from a toaster while moving the toaster.
Event date	27/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Gills; Toasters; Roaster (Portable cooking)
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The toaster was plugged in and switched on at the power socket. The plunger switch, on the toaster, was not depressed. On investigation it was found one of the double pole switch contacts was closed even when the switch was not depressed. As this pair of switches was connected to the phase the elements of the toaster were live. While moving the toaster the person made contact with the toaster elements with the fingers and received an electric shock. The toaster supplier was contacted and this model of toasters were recalled.
Event ID:	090617-02
Event summary	The low voltage overhead mains came down onto a metal fence. Several cows were killed as a result of earth potential rise.
Event date	28/05/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	400
Equipment	Mains
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The farm owner was not aware that he owned the overhead mains and hence did not carry out any maintenance. The farm owner was made aware of his responsibility and he attended to the defect and upgraded the mains.
Event ID:	090708-01
Event summary	A member of the public was switching off stadium lights when there was a flash over.
Event date	07/07/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Outside (Above Ground)
Voltage	400
Equipment	Switch
Event	Burns
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock, Burn
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment

Outcome of investigation

On investigation it was found that the switch was not suitable for the load. All switches (3 Phase) were replaced and the circuit modified to include a contactor.

Event ID:	090805-02
Event summary	Home owner received an electric shock from metal meter box.
Event date	04/08/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Switch/distribution board
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The sub board neutral and earth connections were connected under the neutral stud but there was no link between the neutral and earth bar. A soil heater developed a fault to earth causing the metal box of the sub board to become live causing the electric shock. The sub board mains cable had been recently re connected to a new switchboard as the old house had been re built. The electrical contractors had not checked the sub board prior to livening. Referred to the Electrical Workers Licensing Group.

Event ID:	090827-03
Event summary	While working in a telephone compartment of a lift the worker received an electric shock from a live wire.
Event date	27/08/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Flexible Cable
Event	Electrical Shock
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Shock
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	Vandals had removed the telephone and the live wires to a light switch were left exposed. The installation was made safe.

Electrical fire notifiable accidents

Event ID:	090702-01
Event summary	Fire in metal meter box caused minimal damage to surround, fire damage to wooden back plate.
Event date	10/09/2008
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Metering
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire in metal meter box was caused by loose terminal in base of main fuse. The fire was contained with the metal box and caused some minor damage to the surrounding brick work. The meter and wooden backing board in the box were destroyed during the fire.

Event ID:	090518-10
Event summary	A fire severely damaged a hotel complex which was caused by an electrical fault.
Event date	11/05/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Other
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to multiple rooms
Outcome of investigation	An investigation found that the fire has initiated from damaged high voltage Cables used to supply electricity to a neon sign. Its apparent that the cable has arced and in turn ignited the internal timber structure of a column within the complex. The cables appear to have been damaged at the time of installation. A number of other quality of work issues were identified during the investigation. These competency related issues have been referred to the Electrical Workers Licensing Group.
Event ID:	090522-01
Event summary	An oil column heater in a bedroom apparently leaked oil and the oil caught fire causing fire damage to the room.
Event date	20/05/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Room Heaters; Fan heaters; Radiant Heaters; Oil Fin
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The cause of the fire could not be determined and may have been caused by oil leaking or a garment left on the heater.
Event ID:	090601-02
Event summary	A house fire reported to have been caused by dehumidifier.
Event date	01/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Heat pumps; air-conditioners; dehumidifiers
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to the site
Outcome of investigation	The house was extensively damaged. The cause of the fire was put down to a dehumidifier which was approximately 7 years old. Following a number of fires involving dehumidifiers Energy Safety published a safety alert on the importance of safe use and regular maintenance of dehumidifiers. The safety alert was placed on Energy Safety's website.

Event ID:	090604-01
Event summary	A report was received concerning a fire with a waste disposal unit.
Event date	04/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Equipment under 60204 classification
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	A report was received about a fire with a waste disposal unit. The damage was confined to the cupboard with the unit. The cause of the fire was not established.

Event ID:	090608-01
Event summary	A home owner notified Energy Safety when an oil column heater, which had recently been purchased, emitted oil vapour within an infant's bedroom. The fire service and ambulance attended the incident there was no fire damage to the bedroom this was contained within the heater. However an infant sleeping in the room was treated for smoke inhalation which resulted in the infant being admitted to hospital for observation and latter released with no complications.
Event date	08/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Room Heaters; Fan heaters; Radiant Heaters; Oil Fin
Event	Fire
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Asphyxiation
Property damage level	No property damage
Outcome of investigation	The heater was sent to a test laboratory for analysis. They established the fault to be a breakdown of wiring insulation due to the temperature of the heater exceeding the operating temperature limit of the wiring insulation held in contact with it. An electrical flashover occurred between the live conductor and the metal end cover causing small holes to be punctured in the metal panel resulting in leakage of oil and fumes. This does not comply with the applicable electrical safety standard for heaters and therefore a recall notice was published by the supplier in all the major papers throughout the country.

Event ID:	090623-01
Event summary	Fire in external switchboard of house, may involve smart meter. The meter box and contents were destroyed.
Event date	19/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Control panel
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment and caused damage to

Outcome of investigation outside wall of house.
The mains cable appears to have been damaged where it entered the meter box and over time the insulation failed causing the cable to arc and set fire to the wooden backing plate in the meter box. The network company is auditing other installations of this type.

Event ID:	090626-01
Event summary	Main cable faulted where it entered building causing small fire on outside of building.
Event date	26/06/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	400
Equipment	Armoured Cable
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire in main cable where it entered building, it appears that the cable may have been damaged when it was installed a number of years ago and water may have entered the sheath causing it to track across phases.

Event ID:	090630-01
Event summary	Fire in wall of old house. Fire service attended and located small fire in wall above light switch.
Event date	27/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Other
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire was caused by failure of old VIR cable circa 1940 in capping and casing in wall of old house.

Event ID:	090701-01
Event summary	Fatal house fire involving heater
Event date	30/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	Fatality
Injury	Burn
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	It appears that there was clothing close to the heater which caught fire causing a sofa to also contribute to the fire resulting in the loss of life. There were no faults with the installation found during the investigation.

Event ID:	090703-01
Event summary	Fire in lounge possibly caused by heater or extension lead, sofa on fire at time.
Event date	30/06/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire may have been caused by heater or extension lead, sofa was reported to have been on fire when fire service attended, the fire service where not sure where fire started and the scene was not investigated as there was little evidence left at the scene.

Event ID:	090705-01
Event summary	Electric blanket caused some scorching in bed no other damage.
Event date	05/07/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Blankets; Pads
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire service were called to electric blanket fire, the blanket caused a sheet on a bed to smoulder. The electric blanket was very old with no visible markings that could identify the maker.

Event ID:	090717-01
Event summary	Fire in kitchen of hotel unit, occupant evacuated when smoke alarm went off.
Event date	17/07/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	Injury
Injury	Asphyxiation
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The fire was located inside the fridge in the area of the thermostat. The fridge was 29 years old.

Event ID:	090723-01
Event summary	NZFS reported fire in switchboard which caused damage to rooms in the dwelling.
Event date	23/07/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Switch/distribution board
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Extended to the room and structure containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire in switchboard caused by water leaking above switchboard causing short circuit fault and damage to circuit protection.
Event ID:	090730-03
Event summary	Light fitting caught fire in store room.
Event date	30/07/2009
Site	Commercial
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Floodlights
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the direct vicinity of the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The light fitting had been contaminated with water due to a leak in the roof over several months causing a breakdown of the insulation in the fitting.
Event ID:	090805-05
Event summary	The Fire Service notified Energy Safety of a fire involving a dehumidifier.
Event date	05/08/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Appliances
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	The occupants of the house were out at the time of the incident. A dehumidifier had been left operating in a bedroom with the door closed. The dehumidifier was completely destroyed and due to the closed door the fire had self extinguished. The damage was contained within the bedroom and was mainly smoke damage. Due to the damage caused to the dehumidifier the cause of this failure was unable to be determined. The occupant was questioned around the operation of the dehumidifier and disclosed that they were unaware of the air filter within the unit and the manufacturer's requirement for cleaning the filter. If the filter had been blocked this could have contributed to the unit over heating.

Event ID:	090812-02
Event summary	Fire in office of house containing computer equipment.
Event date	12/08/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	transformers for switch-modes power suppliers
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	Fire was possibly caused by backup power supply or multi box. The Fire Service could not determine the area of origin.

Event ID:	090826-04
Event summary	A house occupier returned home to find smouldering in the house. The Fire Service were called and they suppressed the fire which extended to an area of about one square metre in the ceiling. Damage occurred as a result of the fire and fire suppression activities.
Event date	26/08/2009
Site	Domestic
Environment	Building
Voltage	230
Equipment	Flexible Cable
Event	Fire
Casualty	No casualty
Injury	No injury
Property damage level	Restricted to the room containing the equipment
Outcome of investigation	According to investigating electrical engineer, older vulcanised insulation rubber wiring had deteriorated leading to a fault condition causing fire. A recommendation for replacement of the wiring was passed on to the house owner.