

Safety Alert

Cabinet 600 Mk6 – electrical hazard

11th March 2020

Background information

It has come to our attention that an electrical hazard may exist with the heater, cable and thermostat assembly within the Cabinet 600 Mk6 (Multiple suppliers). The defects reported include:

- Sub-standard quality cable being used between the power distribution unit (**PDU**) and heater.
- PDU to heater cable not properly secured.
- No or inadequate heater guard.
- Incorrect thermostat fitted.
- Inadequate warning labels.

The defects are currently being investigated and rectification action being agreed with the cabinet suppliers. Cabinets held at our National Technology and Logistics Centre are being quarantined and inspected.

Specific hazards

- The PDU to heater cable may have exposed conductors due to heat damage or due to physical movement.
- The heater may be operating at a temperature which will cause injury to unprotected skin or an operative may injure their hands as a result of a reflex action after coming into contact with the heater.

Recommendations

- Maintenance and installation teams should be aware of these hazards, their causes and recommended actions.
- No special/bespoke site visits are required to mitigate these risks.
- Good electrical safety practice should be applied including:
 - Reference to INDG231 Rev1 “Electrical Safety and You” by the HSE and also BS7671 Section 706.
 - A “test before touching” practice should be used before opening any 600 cabinet.
 - Isolate the Heater and any equipment you are working on immediately after opening cabinet doors.
 - Still use the “test before touching” practice throughout the maintenance task.
 - Do not place hands near the heater without first checking its temperature is below 30degC using an infrared thermometer.
 - Show caution if retrieving tools or components that have been dropped near or on the heater.