

Protecting Ministries

Each year, there are 20 to 30 electrocution deaths associated with electrical power tools.



The Department for
Ministry Protection

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The Shocking Truth

Installing and using ground-fault circuit interrupters can protect employers and employees against 120-volt electrical hazards on the job or construction site, especially where power tools are used.



Receptacle GFCI

Each year, Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) learns of approximately 20 to 30 electrocution deaths associated with power drills, saws, sanders, hedge trimmers, and other electric power tools. Most of these deaths could be prevented by the use of a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI).

The GFCI constantly monitors current flowing in a circuit to sense any loss of current to a ground. If the current flowing through two circuit conductors differs by a very small amount, the GFCI interrupts the current flow in 1/20th of a second in order to prevent an electrocution hazard. The use of double-insulation power tools presents lower risks of electrocution; however, GFCIs provides the highest level of protection for your workers.

GFCIs will not work if the ground prong has been removed from an extension cord. Pre-use inspections of electrical extension cords must be performed to ensure that they are in good condition, not frayed, cut, spliced, or missing the grounding prong.

GFCIs should be installed in all workshops, garages, out-door electrical outlets, and indoor outlets that are near a water source, such as a sink, janitor's closet, fountain, and even a fish aquarium.



Industrial multi-outlet GFCI

Three common types of GFCIs are available for use: 1) circuit breaker, 2) receptacle, and 3) portable types. The circuit breaker type needs to be installed by an electrician. The receptacle type may be installed by a knowledgeable person familiar with electrical wiring practices.

The portable GFCI needs no special knowledge to install. Just plug the portable GFCI into a wall receptacle and then plug the electric power tool into the GFCI. It is generally priced below \$30 and is available at hardware stores, building supply centers, and electrical supply stores.



In-line single GFCI

Make SAFETY a habit!