



Office of **Energy**

## Office of *ENERGY* WA

# *Electrical* **FOCUS**

### ***New Edition of Wiring Rules***

Standards Australia recently released the next edition of the Wiring Rules. The new edition is called AS/NZS 3000: 2000 (even though the publication date is 15 September 1999). The Standard will be produced in the familiar ["toolbox"] A5 size but will have two types of covers available; the normal publication which is soft bound and the premier version which is hard bound.

To adopt the new Standard, some minor changes will be required to the *Electricity (Licensing) Regulations 1991*. This change is anticipated to take effect mid 2000. In the meantime, the current edition of the Wiring Rules, AS 3000—1991 SAA Wiring Rules, will continue to apply for all electrical installations in Western Australia, until the necessary legislative changes have been made.

Standards Australia plans to conduct a series of workshop/seminars in the early part of 2000. The presentations are expected to be held throughout Western Australia in about May of that year. We will provide further details when known.

**Please Note:**

***The current edition of AS 3000—1991 SAA Wiring Rules will continue to apply for all electrical installations in Western Australia until further notice.***

### ***Shrouded Extension Cord Sockets***

We have received several enquiries about difficulties when the protective shroud of an extension cord socket has prevented it being plugged into an inlet socket.

Readers may recall an article in Energy Bulletin No. 9 - December 1997, which advised that 6 August 1997 was the date of application of an amendment to AS/NZS 3120 "Approval and Test Specifications – Cord Extension Sockets". The amendment specified

that 10 Amp cord extension sockets must have a protective shroud around the face of the socket. From that date, it was illegal to sell or hire non-complying cord extension sockets. Existing old style 10 Amp cord extension sockets may still be used but new cord extension sockets that are being sold must be the complying type which have the protective shroud.

Inlet sockets (rated at 10 Amps) which will accommodate the new shrouded cord extension sockets are also available. Existing socket outlets can therefore be replaced with the new type to permit the use of shrouded cord extension sockets.

The requirement for a shroud applies only to 10 Amp cord extension sockets, not 15 Amp cord extension sockets. Inlet sockets intended for use in caravans are rated at 15 Amps and are therefore not affected by the introduction of the 10 Amp shrouded cord extension socket.

### ***Correction - Wiring of Meter Panels***

The article "Installation of Tariff Metering Equipment in Low Voltage Installations" in Electrical Focus - August 1999 was incorrect. The correct information has been reproduced below. The Editor apologises for any confusion that may have been caused.

### ***Wiring of Meter Panels***

Western Power has advised that 415 volt switchboard manufacturers will be providing and installing the current transformers, metering panels and associated wiring as part of the switchboard during its manufacture. Western Power staff will install the tariff meters when the switchboard is on site and commission the overall metering system.

The Electrical Contractors Association held its Annual Excellence Awards at Rendezvous Observation City Hotel on 11 September 1999



*Pictured at the Excellence Awards were, from left to right, Albert Koenig, Director of Energy Safety, Office of Energy; Rod Hale, Executive Director, Electrical Contractors Association and Mitchell Ross, Regional General Manager, MM Electrical Merchandising*

*Apprentice of the Year (Electrical Division) Michelle Redgewell of Redgewell Electrics is congratulated by Rod Hale, Executive Director, Electrical Contractors Association*



*Also attending the Excellence Awards were, from left to right, Steve Reinholdtsen of HPM Industries, Mark Dalglish of Nu-Power Electrics (winner of the Electrical Safety Award) and Graham Harley, also of Nu-Power Electrics*

