

Work Environment Group

Number 2

(April 2016)

HAZARD ALERT Electric shock: Entering ceiling spaces

Risk: Exposed wiring in ceiling spaces

Issue: Several instances of exposed wiring have been detected in ceiling

spaces at the university. The first instance was found to be caused

by birds or animals entering the roof space and eating the

insulation off the wiring. The second was improper termination of

redundant control wiring. In both instances, there were minor

injuries and Notification to Comcare was required.

Recommendations:

- Ensure work permits are in order before work begins.
- Extreme care is required when entering roof spaces.
- Caution is required when removing ceiling tiles.
- Use a torch to inspect ceiling spaces for hazards before entering.
- Report all damaged wiring and hazards to Facilities and Services and immediate supervisor as soon as practicable.
- Test all wires for electrical current before touching





 Take down:
 JUNE 2016

 Authorised by:
 Work Environment Group

Contact: whs@anu.edu.au for additional information

Staff and Students are reminded to report incidents to their supervisor and/or through the HORUS/ISIS online incident notification systems.