

# Why Electrical Compliance is vital for businesses

4 years ago



Compliance is often seen as an inconvenience. Unnecessary red tape that holds businesses back. While that might be true in some very specific cases, it's definitely not when it comes to electrical compliance.

Electrical installations and equipment are the beating heart of any business. Neglecting the relevant rules and regulations can have serious consequences in terms of safety, finances and the reputation of a business.

## Safety first

"Safety first" is an age-old saying, but actions speak much louder than words. The action in question is staying compliant with The Electricity at Work Regulations (1989) and Health and Safety at Work Act (1974).

These regulations exist for a reason – to keep staff, visitors and anyone on-site safe. When it comes to electrics, the risks aren't to be taken lightly. People can be shocked or burnt by faulty appliances or exposed wiring. Electrical fires are another big safety risk, which can have devastating consequences.

In terms of your responsibility, the overriding theme of the regulations is to keep systems and equipment safe and well maintained. A good way to demonstrate that is with regular inspections and tests, including PAT and EICR, by someone who's qualified and competent.

## Costing things up

Safety alone should be enough to convince business owners that electrical compliance is vital. But for those with one eye on their bottom line, it's worth taking a look at the cost implications too.

### Damage

Firstly, there's the damage. Even with a rapid response, electrical fires can tear through business sites like you wouldn't believe. In a matter of minutes, they'll cause thousands of pounds worth of damage. Insurance doesn't always cover it, especially if your own non-compliance led to the fire.

### Claims

Where there's blame, there's a claim. Employees that get hurt or injured by electrical issues can take legal action against your business. If you don't have up-to-date installation reports or appliance tests, for example, you might not have a leg to stand on.

### Long-term repairs

Even without any major accidents, electrical compliance still works out cheaper in the long run for most businesses. By getting your installation and appliances checked regularly, you'll be able to nip small issues in the bud and sidestep the much bigger cost (and disruption) of major repairs.

## Don't forget your reputation

Reputation is vital for businesses, especially in the digital age where customers have reviews and background checks at their fingertips.

What would a customer think if they stumbled upon an article about legal proceedings for an electric shock caused by negligence? Or a news story about a big fire that started from a faulty plug socket?

In short, they won't like it – and it won't go away any time soon. It can take years for companies to get over bad press, if at all! It's much easier, cheaper and more sensible to stay compliant, stay safe and stay successful.

To find out more about electrical compliance for businesses, visit: [voltagecompliance.com/electrical-compliance/](https://voltagecompliance.com/electrical-compliance/)