



UTILITY MANAGEMENT THERMOGRAPHIC SURVEYS

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE

UTILITY MANAGEMENT

THERMOGRAPHIC SURVEYS



INTRODUCTION

This good practice guidance has been generated to help prevent potential fires.

This guidance will focus on the principle of completing a thermographic survey of any heat generation source, but with particular attention given to the electrical infrastructure of the factory area and site.

KEY CONTROLS

1. The engineering team should complete a pre-thermographic survey of all electrical control devices as per the circuit diagram to ensure that appropriate and designed electrical safeguards are in place, i.e. the correct fuse ratings, no safety device has been bypassed.
2. In addition, before the thermographic survey, the engineering team should ensure:
 - a. Electrical circuits and systems are operating within their design specification.
 - b. All extension cables are removed from operation.
3. The thermographic survey should be completed by a competent individual, i.e. a third party.
4. The main focus areas of a thermographic survey are:
 - a. Any heat source or heat generation source involving a high temperature
 - b. Electrical distribution boards
 - c. Electrical cable systems
 - d. Key electrical control devices, i.e. machinery
5. The thermographic survey should provide a full report of the findings. It is normal that the report includes colour graphic pictures showing the temperature levels, normally for areas of concern requiring action.
6. Any actions highlighted by the thermographic survey report should be completed in a timeframe relevant to the level of risk for the issue raised, and corrective actions recorded.

Management at the site should be aware of any heat-generating device or process used or created by a contractor working at the site. The contractors should be appropriately managed and controlled.

Note 1 – This document has been published as a guideline for “Good Practice” only. It is not legal advice or a legal briefing document

Note 2 - The “Good Practices” highlighted in the document may be incorporated into individual company health and safety management systems.

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