

SAFETY ALERT

HSE-ALERT-012

Date: 21 December 2016

Area of Concern: All JCU staff, Postgraduates and Students

Safe Use of Christmas Lights

It is that time of year when we put up a string or two of Christmas lights. However before you start decorating there are some important safety tips to consider, especially as you leave for the Holidays.

Safety Tips

- Do Not alter or modify the lights
- Check old Christmas lights to make sure they are in good condition before re-using. Some things to check for:
 - Insulation is in good condition
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions
- **Always turn off decorative lighting before leaving the workplace,** leaving the house or going to bed.
- Use lighting that is suitable for indoor use or outdoor use depending on the application.
- Don't run electrical leads over walkways or other areas where they may be damaged.
- Avoid wrapping lighting around sharp surfaces.
- Do not overload power circuits, daisy chain electrical leads or use double adapters.

Action Required:

Only buy and install lights that have the Regulatory Compliance Mark:



All Level 1, 2 or 3 electrical equipment offered for sale by registered responsible suppliers must be marked with the Regulatory Compliance Mark.

This mark is generally found on the surface of the electrical equipment as near as possible to the model identification.

Resources

For further information and safety tips, visit the Workplace Health and Safety Website: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/injury-prevention-safety/electricity/homeowners-and-consumers/use-safe-christmas-lights>