



PRESS RELEASE

1 February 2018

18th Edition of the Wiring Regulations BS 7671 due in July 2018

The 18th Edition of the UK's Wiring Regulations (BS 7671:2018) are due to be published on 1 July 2018 and will come into full effect in January 2019.

Co-published by the Institution of Engineering & Technology (IET) and the British Standards Institution (BSI), BS 7671:2018 is based primarily on an International Electrotechnical Committee (IEC) standard and European CENELEC harmonised documents (HDs).

The amendments in the 18th edition will have an important impact on the lightning protection industry, as they will require the use of surge protection devices (SPDs) in most installations such as hospitals, data centres, hotels, farms, banks and schools, where the consequences caused by overvoltages could cause significant losses through damage and disruption leading to downtime. A new simplified risk assessment is required for other installations such as home offices. Typical residential homes will not require protection as the consequential losses are tolerable.

Some further changes in the 18th Edition:

- Protecting against electric shock
- Protecting against electromagnetic disturbances and voltage disturbance
- Selection and erection of wiring systems
- **New to the 18th Edition: Energy efficiency**

Electrical contractors and electricians will be given a six month transition period to get up to speed with the changes. From January 2019, it will then be a requirement that all electrical installations designed after this date comply with BS 7671:2018. Demonstrating a level of understanding and awareness of the changes should be a priority for everyone involved in the electro-technical industry.

ATLAS President, Colin Clinkard said:

“Due to the updates in the 18th Edition having a direct impact on the lightning protection industry, ATLAS members will be made aware of the changes, to continue an excellent service to their clients. The safety of ATLAS members and their clients is paramount, so adhering to the latest regulations will be a priority.”

~ Ends ~

For further information, contact ATLAS:

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Notes to Editors

1. The [Association of Technical Lightning and Access Specialists](#) (ATLAS) has been representing the leading companies in the lightning protection and specialist access industry since 1946. At the forefront of all industry developments, ATLAS is committed to improving working practices, technical excellence and the skills of the workforce, to provide the highest quality service to the industry's clients.
2. See the full list of [ATLAS members](#).
3. The [Institution of Engineering & Technology \(IET\)](#) plays a key role in electrical installation standards and safety, and is known for its independent and trusted voice. It manages the national committee JPEL/64 and publishes the IET Wiring Regulations BS 7671.
4. The [British Standards Institution \(BSI\)](#) is the national standards body of the UK. BSI produces technical standards on a range of products and services, and also supplies certification and standards-related services to businesses.

