
Hazards in electrical rooms put people and property at risk

Live electrical panels left open - cause danger

Electrical Safety Authority's Continuous Safety Services Initiative has identified that many Commercial and Industrial establishments leave live panels open for long periods of time. They noted that many people, other than electricians, now enter "electrical" rooms to maintain data, phone, security, fire alarm and other wiring systems. **Please note:**

Rule 2-202 Guarding of Bare Live Parts in the Ontario Electrical Safety Code requires "Protection of Persons and Property":

- (1) *Bare live parts shall be guarded against accidental contact by . . . approved cabinets . . . a suitable room, vault or similar enclosed area . . . accessible only to qualified persons.*
- (3) *Entrances to rooms . . . containing bare live parts shall be marked with conspicuous warning signs forbidding entry to unqualified persons."*

Permanent metal panel covers must be replaced as soon as possible.

Poor "housekeeping" creates serious risks to people and property

Materials, supplies and trash left in electrical rooms often blocks access, causes accidents, and poses fire hazards.

Allowing any objects to be left near electrical panels violates the Ontario Electrical Safety Code:

Rule 2-308 states "*a minimum working space of 1 metre with secure footing shall be provided and maintained about electrical equipment . . . enclosed in metal.*"

Rule 2-312 further requires "*working space around electrical equipment shall not be used for storage and shall be kept clear of obstruction.*"

Safety is everyone's concern and everyone's responsibility.

These hazards should be identified and fixed.