



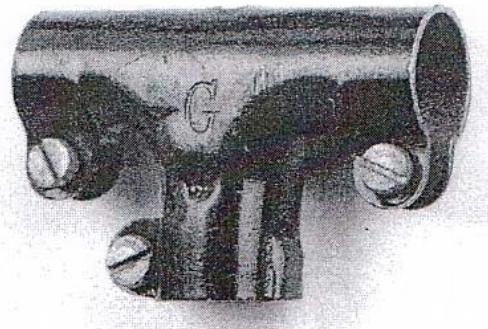
SAFETY WARNING REGARDING METALLIC ELECTRICAL CONDUITS

SAFETY ALERT

Recently a person installing security alarm wiring died as a result of inadvertently contacting a live electrical metallic conduit in the ceiling space of a commercial premises. The electrical conduit system used was a split conduit, also known as plain conduit.

This type of conduit was manufactured from mild steel, formed almost into a complete circle without the seam being joined and was painted black. Conduit fittings included elbows, tees, junction boxes and couplings and these were connected to the conduit by clamping (see photo below)

These conduit systems were designed to enclose single insulated cables and were required to be earthed. The earthing continuity was dependent on paint being removed from the ends of the conduit prior to the conduit being inserted into the fittings and that the screws of the fittings were adequately tightened.



SPLIT CONDUIT TEE

When these types of wiring systems (split conduit) are encountered on older electrical installations, the metallic conduit should be tested by a dubitably qualified and competent person to ensure that the conduit is not live before touching or working in the vicinity of it.

A licensed electrician or licensed electrical inspector is regarded as suitably qualified and competent conduct a safety check or any other metallic wiring enclosure.

Authorised by Andrew Ferguson, State Secretary, CFMEU (Construction & General Division) NSW Branch,

12 Railway Street, LIDCOMBE NSW 2141 Ph: (02) 9749 0400

Email: enquiries@nsw.cfmeu.asn.au; Web: www.cfmeu-construction-nsw.com

