

September 2016 Compliance Activity Report



Government
of South Australia

SafeWork SA

Public administration and safety

This report covers people working in state and local government including:

- police, investigation and security services
- fire protection and emergency services
- correctional and detention services
- regulatory services.

SafeWork SA's inspectors ensure work health and safety and public safety standards are met with appropriate action taken as breaches of laws are detected.

Two dangerous incidents occurred in September, one where a person received an electric shock from equipment. It is important that workplaces ensure electrical items are tested and inspected and protected by a residual current device. It is also important that a qualified person checks all electrical equipment, including light switches and on/off switches of devices to identify risks of electric shock.

Another incident related to excavation works. Workplaces need to consider what underground services could be present ahead of undertaking works. Damage to services is dangerous and can be fatal. There is a reliance on using service location providers, however this service should be used together with other methods of identifying underground services such as a trained and experienced operator using an underground asset-locating device.

Another incident of note was the inadvertent release of chlorine into a pool. As we head into summer, the use of pools will become more frequent. Workplaces need to ensure automatic dosing units are serviced regularly and working effectively. It is important to ensure chlorine products are stored safely, with suitable provisions if there is a spill and that staff use and handle these products in a safe manner in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and using appropriate personal protective equipment.

Report work health and safety issues to SafeWork SA on 1300 365 255 or help.safework@sa.gov.au.

