

Headline	50 percent of electrical accidents result in deaths		
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50 % of electrical accidents result in deaths

PUTRAJAYA: On average, 58 electrical accident cases occur every year in the country, with nearly 50 per cent of the accidents resulting in deaths.

Energy Commission (EC) Director of Electrical Safety Regulations, Mohd Elmi Anas said for the past 15 years, the commission had investigated up to 899 cases of electrical accidents, of which 448 resulted in fatalities.

“This year alone, 34 cases have been reported to EC and if this figure is annualised, the total accidents recorded this year would be 58 cases.

“This number indicates an increasing trend by 7.4% compared to the previous year,” he said in a statement yesterday.

He added the EC’s in-depth investigations discovered that 32 per cent of the accidents

were the result of improper installation and maintenance of equipment.

Mohd Elmi said this was followed closely by failure to heed safe work practices, which stood at 30.5 per cent.

“Other causes include dangerous activities near public electrical installations, trespassing at electrical installations and misuse of electrical systems,” he said.

He added about 26 per cent of the incidents occurred at non-domestic electrical installations such as factory premises and commercial buildings and schools, whilst 15.7 per cent took place at residential premises.

For such reasons, he said, yesterday the commission had launched a Non-Domestic Electrical Installation Safety Code in its efforts to improve the standard of electrical safety in this country.

He said the code was in line with the requirement under section 33B of the Electricity Supply (Amendment) Act 2015, which stated that a non-domestic electrical installation owner or operator registered under the act, licensee for retail and licensee for a private installation, should comply with the code.

Mohd Elmi said the code was registered by the commission under section 50A on May 17 this year (2017) and shall be effective from the date.

“Amongst the main objectives of the code is to provide safety requirements in relation to the design, construction, operation, inspection, testing and maintenance of the non-domestic installations, in accordance with applicable technical standards and good practices,” he said. - Bernama