

POCKET GUIDE 36

Responsibility for equipment at the service position

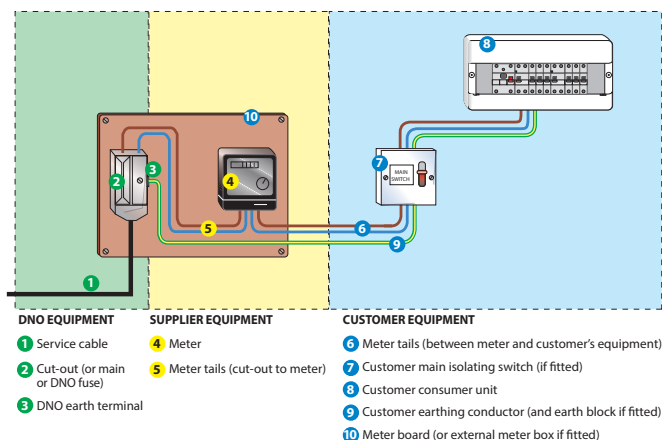
This Guide, based on the guidance given in the Meter Operation Code of Practice Agreement (MOCOPA), gives information on the parties responsible for the electrical equipment found at the service position of an electrical installation in a domestic premises or smaller installation.

The intention of this guide is to provide electrical installation contractors (contractors for short) with an understanding of which parts of the equipment at the service position is the responsibility of the Distribution Network Operator (DNO), the supplier or the person ordering the work (typically the customer), and what action to take where a defect is identified to the equipment.

Fig 1 illustrates, in accordance with the MOCOPA, the boundaries of responsibility for a typical service position where the supply is TN-C-S (similar responsibilities apply to other systems).

There are a number of companies known as meter operators which also operate in the electricity supply chain; however, they are not a party having responsibilities for equipment. Meter operators install and maintain metering equipment under agreement, generally with the supplier.

Fig 1 Responsibility of equipment at the service position (reproduced from the MOCOPA)



MOCOPA, issued on 1st July 2013, has the primary purpose of providing meter operatives with guidance on what action to take when a defect is identified in equipment at the service position, to provide an efficient process for meter operatives to report the defect (using a system of codes).



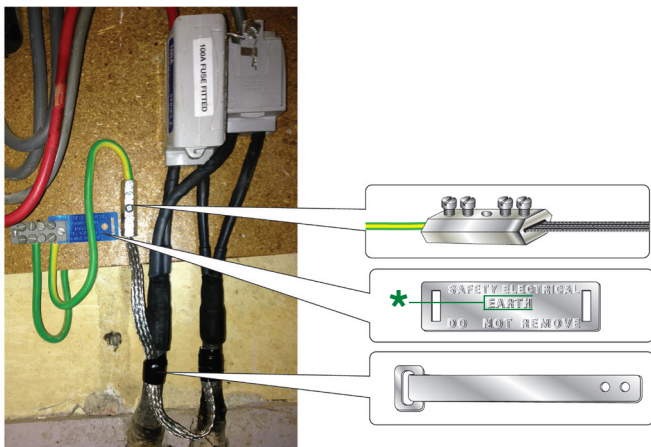
POCKET GUIDE 36

Responsibility for equipment at the service position

Fig 1 does not detail all the possible scenarios for equipment at the service position and it is not a wiring diagram for an installation. However, MOCOPA will be of use to contractors and others working in the electrical industry as it clarifies the boundaries of responsibility.

Where the supply is TN-S and the DNO has supplied a means of earthing by clamping to the service cable (as illustrated in Fig 2), Regulation 24(1) of the *Electricity Supply Quality and Continuity Regulations* (ESQCR) places responsibility for ensuring the effectiveness of the connection with the DNO. Furthermore, code A11 of MOCOPA places the responsibility on the distributor (rather than the customer) to repair/maintain any defects.

Fig 2 Example of a consumer earth bond (Hepworth clamp) with the customers earthing conductor connected



MOCOPA advises on a reporting process for meter operatives. Where contractors as part of an initial inspection or a periodic inspection identify a defect in the equipment at the service position, for example, the cut-out is damaged, that defect should be recorded on the relevant certificate or report, and the contractor should inform the customer (owner or user of the installation).

The customer as the account holder, reports the defect to their supplier quoting their reference number. Alternatively, the person ordering the work would be responsible for contacting the relevant party to report any recorded defects.

***Note:** Regulation 514.13.1 uses the word 'connection'.

www.niceic.com www.elecsa.co.uk www.eca.co.uk

For further copies of this guide telephone 0870 013 0382
or e-mail enquiries@certsure.com

