

# ECSSA NEWSLETTER

Issue 13

September 2003

## Welcome

It is hard to believe that we have now reached the last half of 2003. We hope that the year so far has been an informative one from our side and a productive one from yours. ECSSA is in the process of evaluating and restructuring its administration to ensure that our members receive the best personal, efficient and effective service you require. It is with great sadness that we say **farewell** to Gráinne Doyle and **welcome** Joanna Black to our company in her position. In addition we would also like to bid fairwell and thank you to Cathy Healy who has assisted us in the office since Gráinne went on maternity leave. We would like to wish Cathy the best of luck in her new job. We would welcome any feedback from our members over the next few months and any suggestions, complaints or compliments to ensure we provide you with professional service.

**John O'Loughlin**  
Chairperson.



## OUR NEW OFFICES

Coolmore House  
Park Road,  
Killarney,  
Co. Kerry.

Tel: 064 37266  
Fax: 064 37269

Email: [info@ecssa.ie](mailto:info@ecssa.ie)  
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**Electrical Contractors Safety and Standards Association**

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## ECSSA New Membership Cards

**2004** will see the launch of our new (credit card like) membership cards.

This new card has been especially designed for endurance for our members in the industry. Please ensure that should you wish to update your photograph that we currently have on file then send us a new one before November 2003.

Any members who have not yet sent us photographs ..... please do so.

You would not want to look any different.



## ECSSA on pricing your jobs

We have been asked by Electrical Contractors to comment on contractors working for low or minimal margins. ECSSA is a regulatory body whose purpose is to regulate its members and to ensure that they install to the ETCI Regulations. Following from this we will not or cannot get involved in commercial matters such as pricing.

However, contractors should be aware that when pricing work they should also take into account not just the cost of materials, labour and profit margins but also the cost of Public Liability Insurance, PAYE, PRSI, vehicle and plant running costs and maintenance.

If margins are too tight then some contractors may be tempted to cut corners in order to reduce losses and to increase profits.

As a Regulatory body ECSSA will not allow or tolerate any substandard work from its members. In an ever increasing and competitive market, pricing seems to be getting very keen and this is fine as long as the standards are maintained.

Please let us know if any members would be interested in us putting together a course in business budgeting for the contractors. Contact: joannablack@ecssa.ie.

**ECSSA BOARD**

**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE**

## TRAINING COURSE IN CERTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION

**C.E.R. (Commission for Energy Regulation) have decided that this course is now MANDATORY for all members - Please see course dates and booking form enclosed.**

**Limited Spaces and Dates Available  
Payment confirms your booking so don't delay.**

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## E.S.B. CUT-OUT

For some years now the standard cut-out has been the Henley Series 7 (grey DMC Material). From now on a new make. Pirelli will be introduced.

The Pirelli cut-out is also made from Grey DMC material but is slightly larger in size and is a lighter colour grey. The main difference between them is in the matter of contractors connecting the main protective conductor (Neutralising) as follows:

Contractor can access the neutral terminal block in the existing Henley cut-out via knockouts in the neutral cover.

In the Pirelli cut-out there is a small black insert in the neutral cover, which can be prised off from the outside using a small flat screwdriver blade. The black insert at the main protective conductor (Neutralising) cable entry can be simply removed.

**Sean O'Shea**

## E.S.B. SA-ID. NO. Now Called M.P.R.N. No.

### Use of the New Meter Point Reference Number in New Housing Schemes

As part of the introduction of competition to the electricity market, each electricity connection has recently been given a Meter Point Reference Number or MPRN. This is an unchanging number that will identify the connection throughout its life. This will greatly facilitate customer service, particularly in new connections.

ETCI has agreed to include a space for the MPRN on completion certificates. This is particularly useful in the case of housing schemes where the entire development has a single ESB Job ID. Up to now, address information had to be relied upon to identify the individual house.

Builders are currently being asked to provide the numbering and address details for all houses in a new housing scheme at the application state. Once the builder accepts the terms for connection, ESB Network Services has the facility to provide a list of MPRN's for these addresses when the builder accepts terms for connection. It's important that the number of houses, the house numbering and address information is correct at the time of application for connection as this will allow ESB Network Services to complete the connections more efficiently.

The builder can make these available to the contractor who can include the MPRN on any completion certificates. This will greatly assist ESB Network Services in associating the completion certificate with the correct connection call. This also applies to individual new supplies.

**Sean O'Shea**



**permanent tsb Killarney** is offering ECSSA members **exclusive and exciting** new banking options and rates. Please see the enclosed leaflet or contact Mary Corcoran or Tim Horgan on 064 33666 for further details. ECSSA endorses this initiative by **permanent tsb Killarney**.

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# NOTICES TO MEMBERS

## INCORRECTLY COMPLETED CERTS

Please note that incorrectly completed Certs. may result in re-inspection at a cost to the member.

## Brief Guide to Verification & Certification of Electrical Installations.

We have designed a booklet to assist members on testing procedures and guidelines. Which can be kept with the test instruments.

This is a worthwhile purchase for a quick reference whilst on the job. It is a convenient size and ring bound for easy access with a plastic dust cover. They are available from our offices at a cost of €10.00.

**ECSSA HELPING YOU WORK**

## INSURANCE REMINDER!

Membership runs from 1st January to 31st December every year. In order to ensure that the ECSSA's compliance with CER regulations we require that members provide us with proof of insurance on renewal of annual membership. We face the ongoing problem of outstanding proof of insurance. Please will members ensure that they fax or mail us proof of insurance as and when the insurance is renewed. As of 2004 will will not be able to accept renewal of membership without proof of insurance. Please check our next newsletter for new cut off dates on renewal for the member's directory.

## Dear Inspectors, members and representatives.

Please let me know how we can improve our service to you. We are currently planning a number of improvements to our systems in order to bring you fast, efficient and professional services.

Please feel free to contact me at [joannablack@ecssa.ie](mailto:joannablack@ecssa.ie)



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