

Assured Equipment Grounding

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Ensure the following guidelines are being followed:

- Do you use temporary power that is not part of a building's permanent wiring?
- If so, you need to have an Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor Program (AEGCP) and/or require the use of Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI).
- GFCIs do not eliminate the need to inspect extension cords and cords on portable tools.

If you choose to use an Assured Equipment Grounding Conductor Program you must comply with the following criteria by answering the following questions:

- Is a written description of the program available at the work site?
- Has a competent, trained person been designated by the employer to implement the program?
- Are flexible cords and portable tools checked for continuity and grounding on a quarterly basis (at a minimum) and color-coded as having been checked?
- Is there a daily visual check and prompt corrective action if any deficiency is discovered?

Insulation and grounding are two recognized means of preventing injury during electrical equipment operation. OSHA requires these two safeguards to be tested every 3 months.

1. The continuity test ensures there is no electrical current escaping the circuit, through insulation or otherwise.
2. The terminal connection test ensures equipment is properly grounded.