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Talk No. 17					PORTABLE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES
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Start time		End		Duration	
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1. Introduction:

1.1 Electrical appliances are subject to harsh treatment and can easily become worn. Faulty appliances can then become lethal.

2. Main Points:

2.1 All portable electrical appliances should be subject to regular inspection and maintenance by a competent person (e.g. electrician).

2.2 They must only be used on a 110v supply — this should be 110v maximum on a construction site. Always use an RCD if you must use 240v.

2.3 Visual checks of cables and equipment should be carried out prior to use. If any damage is identified, stop use, report to service and report immediately.

3. Points to remember

3.1 Check that suitable fuses, circuit breakers and residual current devices are used. Ensure that any fuses have the correct load ratings.

3.2 Only use portable electrical equipment for the purpose for which they were designed.

3.3 Ensure switches are turned off at the earliest opportunity (prior to starting the task).

3.4 Disconnect power to equipment before working on it.

3.5 All power tools must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions unless it is an approved type that does not require earthing.

3.6 Use of portable electrical equipment may require wearing of suitable PPE such as eye and/or hearing protection. Always wear them as required.

3.7 Never connect portable electrical equipment to double sockets.

3.8 Never use blunt, worn or damaged accessories.

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