

# Serious or Potentially Serious (SoPS) Incident Investigation Report

**ALL SECTIONS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PERSON CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY**

1. Incident Title

Incident No.

R68 G12 UPS connection

I0123456

2. Incident Summary (*Brief summary account of incident*)

On the 30/07/07 at 15:30 Newly re-wired Un-interruptible Power Supply (UPS) in R68, when switched on by Alan Doo from SSTD, with Paul Smith present, gave out load bang and purple flash. At this point Paul jumped back and Alan turned off the power at the isolator.

3. Incident Description (*Detailed account of how incident happened*)

On 30/07/07, the site's Electrical term contractor, Hickmans, was instructed to supply and fit a longer supply cable to a UPS. The contractor was let into the room by the clients Alan Smith and Paul Smith and was instructed to drop the latch on completion (1330).

At 1530 the clients relocated the UPS and switched it on. Instantaneously there was a flash and the fuse blew. The clients contacted Steve Britnell, STFC electrical engineer and contracts superintendents. Steve and the contractor attended. Prior to the contractor arriving Steve removed the cover and found carbonation under the phase terminal on the input to the UPS. The contractor arrived and was shown the carbonation on the terminal. They re-made the termination and inspected the connection. The fuse in the switch cupboard was replaced and the UPS was set to work. No material damage was recorded on either the UPS or the distribution cable/equipment.

4. Incident Analysis (*Detailed account of contributing factors that led to incident*)

The fault was found to be some of the cores on the multi-stranded cable were directly connected to earth. Normally this kind of fault would be picked up during post completion testing, or with this type of equipment, inspection.

Normal electrical tests in this case were difficult due to the risk of damage to the equipment, however the connection should have been proven by the contract electrician before handover to the client.

The wiring was carried out in inadequate lighting (the contract electrician did not want to disturb a presentation being made in the adjacent room)

The equipment should have been moved to allow easier access to the cable terminations.

This incident has brought up inconsistencies in how the contractor checks and records the quality of their work, and the risk assessment they carry out before the work starts.

5. Actions

Action	Responsibility	Planned Completion date	Status
1	Instance reported to electrician, fault corrected and equipment set to work.	Hickmans	Completed on the day
2	Incident reported and documented.	Steve Britnell	Completed
3	Hickmans completed incident report form.	Hickmans	Completed
4	I met with the contracts manager and director	Hickmans/Heather Loosemore	Completed
5	Hickmans are reviewing the risk assessment process.	Hickmans	On-going
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7			
8			
9			
10			

6. Completed by

Heather Loosemore
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Return completed form to SHE group and send copy to responsible Director/Head of Department