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Two-Day Large Electrical Appliances Fire Investigation Course - Course Outline

The course is designed for suitably trained fire investigators in the public and/or private sector, for example: fire officers, Police Scenes of Crimes Officers, Forensic Scientists and Forensic Engineers. Previous electrical input appropriate to fire investigators is advised.

Course outline/content:

- Refresher relating to circuit protection devices (circuit breakers, fuses etc.).
- Introduction to refrigeration appliances, typical circuit arrangements and common failure modes.
- Introduction to commercial cooking appliances, typical circuit arrangements, safety devices and common failure modes.
- Introduction to microwave ovens, typical circuit designs, an explanation of the operating cycle and common failure modes.
- Introduction to tumble dryer appliances, control panel and timer designs and common failure modes.
- Introduction to washing machines the changes in design over the last decade and common failure modes.
- Technical input and an introduction to dishwashers, typical circuit designs and common failure modes.

- A large electrical appliance workshop where second-user large appliances will be disassembled and relevant safety devices identified. Groups will prepare short presentations to the group so that the entire course receives input on the findings of each group.
- Various demonstrations are undertaken with the large appliances to demonstrate both failure modes and the fire development characteristics.
- Comprehensive handouts are included. The course would be undertaken at a suitable location with outside facilities to undertake the practical workshop and the demonstrations.

