

# ESA to Move to Risk-based Oversight by 2020

## Breaking Down the Risk-based Approach: The Risk Engine

By 2020, ESA will move to a risk-based management approach for wiring work associated with the Ontario Electrical Safety Code. This means ESA will spend more effort on higher-risk work, and less on lower-risk work, while not compromising safety.

In ESA's risk-based oversight scenario, a risk calculator will consider nine factors to determine what is low, medium or high risk work, including:

- ➔ who is doing the work;
- ➔ what work is being done; and
- ➔ where the work is being done.

ESA business rules – the policies and procedures used in the field – and inspector knowledge will complement the output provided by the risk calculator. Together the risk calculator, business rules and field knowledge will comprise the risk engine, which will ultimately determine what work is physically inspected. In this model, all high risk work must be inspected, and medium and low risk work will be subject to selective inspection. That is, one for every two, three, five, or ten installations will have a physical visit by an inspector – this ratio is still to be determined.

For example, the risk calculator may assess a certain type of residential wiring as “low risk” and therefore

subject to selective inspection. However, the inspector or an ESA business rule may flag an increased safety concern – for example, the low risk wiring was done to feed a hot tub or pool. In this case, the risk would be heightened and a mandatory inspection would be required.

The risk engine is being developed this year with a lot of input from ESA's staff. ESA will make the prototype risk engine available to LECs and MEs in 2018. There will be opportunities to provide your feedback on the changes and how you anticipate they may affect the industry. ESA plans to hold consultations in the new year to gather input and feedback from LECs. We encourage you to participate!

## AFCI Nuisance Tripping Can Be More Than Just a Nuisance

### ESA and Electro Federation Canada Want to Help Address It

The issue of nuisance tripping has caused frustration for contractors and homeowners alike. And addressing it can be costly and time-sensitive for you as a contractor. ESA and Electro Federation Canada (EFC) want to help fix that.

When you are made aware of an incident where an AFCI has experienced a nuisance trip please report it to EFC. EFC will inform the appropriate manufacturers and manufacturers will follow up directly with the Licenced Electrical Contractor that filed the report.

Please include the following information in your report and email it to [info@electrofed.com](mailto:info@electrofed.com) with the subject line “AFCI tripping”:

### DID YOU KNOW?

Since it was first introduced into the Ontario Electrical Safety Code in 2002, arc fault protection has proven to significantly reduce the risk of fire in a home. A review of the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal's data indicates complete branch circuit AFCI protection may reduce up to 71.1 per cent and 60 per cent of the fires for single units and multi units, respectively.

### Equipment that appears to be causing the AFCI tripping (may be more than one)

1. Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Model: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### AFCI

1. Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Model: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Length of run \_\_\_\_\_ Meters or feet
5. Complete address where AFCI is installed: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Licenced Electrical Contractor Contact Information:
  - a. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Company: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Email: \_\_\_\_\_