

A utility worker is positioned on a bucket attached to a tall wooden utility pole, performing maintenance or construction. The pole is situated in a rural landscape with a green field in the background and a wooden fence in the foreground. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'Internal Procedures' is written in orange, while the rest of the title is in white.

Internal Procedures

Model Agreement with Private and Community Networks

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Model Agreement with Private and Community Networks

Private Networks

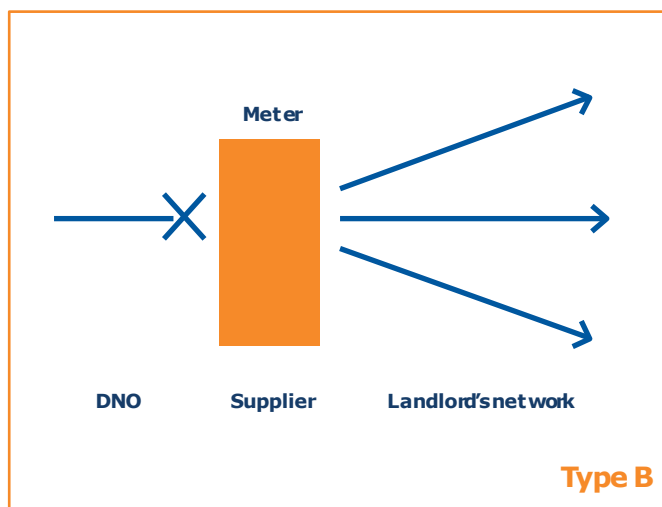
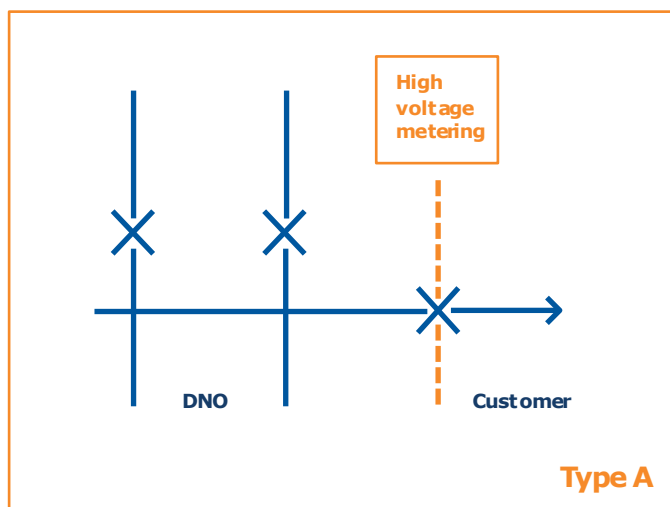
The privatisation and de-regulation of electricity distribution networks has exposed the distinctions between public and private electricity supplies.

It is good practice that public safety legislation and those who enforce it take account of the differences in the supply arrangements and the differences in approach.

The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 of Great Britain, are an example of how a country uses legislation to protect people. The ESQCR not only applies to the public distribution network operator, but also to the licenced and unlicensed owners and operators of electrical networks.

An important distinction in the ESQCR is the principle of risk assessment for a site or piece of equipment. Regulation 3 is based on a two-stage test: (i) the nature of the equipment (i.e. how 'attractive' or otherwise) and (ii) the use of the surrounding land. Regulation 4 recognises the many duty holders that emerge from de-regulated systems and networks and requires them to co-operate with each other.

There are two types of private network supply arrangements – Type A which is for the larger customer with a high-voltage supply, and a Type B, typically for low-voltage supplies.



Type A Arrangement

A large factory or works that consumes a large amount of electricity that receives its supply at high voltage from the DNO. An essential feature of this arrangement is to have a Site Responsibility Schedule agreed between the owner of the site and the DNO. The agreement should detail:

- Who owns each piece of equipment.
- Who is responsible for the inspection maintenance.
- Who is allowed to operate each piece of equipment and by what means? (i.e. local and/or remote).
- The switchgear locking off procedures.
- Who is responsible for the correct grading of the protection systems.

The high-voltage metered customer needs to have a number of procedures in place including the electrical safety rules in order to demonstrate his competence and compliance with electrical and other regulations. It is good practice to have an electrical safety management policy document that provides a simple overview of the electricity supply arrangements to the premises and then refers to the various procedures and documents.

Type B Arrangement

The Type B arrangement typically arises in small privately-owned industrial estates with low voltage networks. In this case, the owners of the properties pay the landlord for the amount of electricity consumed and the landlord pays the Supplier for the general low voltage supply to their site. Being, by their nature, small-scale networks, it is likely that the landlord is unaware of his public safety responsibilities relating to the supply and distribution of electricity and therefore not have the means to take the appropriate action to inspect, maintain, and repair the network.

