

Circuit Breaker Positioning



in collaboration with



An ongoing challenge for many Recreational Vehicle Manufacturers is ensuring that the RCD or Circuit breaker is installed in accordance with the relevant Australian Standards. Section 2.9.2.2 of *AS/NZS 3000:2007 Wiring Rules* states that there needs to be sufficient unimpeded space of at least 600mm in front of a switchboard or circuit breaker. According to the Australian Standards the switchboard also shall be:

- installed in a section of the cupboard separated from other sections; and
- installed at the front of the switchboard section of the cupboard; and
- facing the cupboard access door with insufficient unused space between the switchboard and the cupboard door, when closed, to store extraneous objects in front of the switchboard; and
- located so that the switchboard and access to it is not obstructed by the structure or contents of the building or by fittings and fixtures within the building.

As a Recreational Vehicle's internal layout may change extensively between models, it can often be difficult to ensure that the RCD continues to comply with all aspects of the Standard. Benchtops, televisions, overhead cupboards, Dinettes and beds are all examples of objects that may potentially 'obstruct' access to the switchboard and Safety Switch and therefore render the installation non-compliant.

By moving the RCD to the exterior of a Recreational Vehicle, almost all of these dimensional restrictions are no longer an issue.

Arl distributors have developed a 16 amp RCD & 15 amp External Inlet Combination Enclosure specifically for the Recreational Vehicle Industry (product image below). Positioned alongside the 15amp Inlet, the Safety Switch is fully encapsulated within a weather proof enclosure and appropriately IP rated for all weather conditions. The external location of this unit also then encourages the user to simply test the safety switch every time mains power is connected to the Recreational Vehicle.



16 amp RCD & 15 amp External Inlet Enclosure from arl distributors