



## **Sonic Bass PAT Testing Q&A**

### **What is Portable Appliance Testing?**

Portable Appliance Testing "PAT Testing" is carried out on an annual basis by Sonic Bass to determine whether the particular item of equipment is in a safe condition for continued use. We do however conduct visual inspections on every hire and return.

Health and safety regulations state that the appliances must be safe, to prevent harm to Sonic Bass employees, our clients or the general public. PAT testing is an important part of Sonic Bass's commitment to health and safety and a requirement of our Public Liability insurance agreement.

### **What is involved during PAT testing?**

Before any electrical testing is done, a Formal Visual Inspection is performed.

- This inspection checks the plug internals (if it is rewirable) - the connections, fuse rating and cord grip. On moulded plugs the fuse rating and cable anchorage is checked. Signs of damage, overheating, burn marks or discolouration are also looked for.
- The cable is checked for suitability, correct anchorage and signs of damage.
- The appliance its self is checked for signs of damage, overheating, burn marks or discoloration.

Then a series of In-service tests are performed.

- Earth continuity testing on Class 1 equipment.
- Insulation resistance testing, or protective conductor current/touch current test or substitute/alternative leakage test.
- Load testing is only carried out on smoke and haze machines.
- Functional testing is performed last to ensure that the equipment is working properly.
- Polarity testing is performed on appliance cord sets.

To avoid damaging sensitive sound or lighting equipment, the electrical tests selected would be the appropriate "Soft" tests:

- Earth continuity tests using a short-circuit test current of 200mA.
- Insulation resistance tests are performed at 250v dc followed by the substitute leakage test.

### **Does my insurer require equipment to be PAT tested?**

Insurance companies assume that when providing insurance cover to a business, the owners of that business are complying with all regulations necessary. To keep up with current insurance requirements you will find all Sonic Bass equipment is PAT tested. We keep up-to-date records of who undertook the testing and serial numbers of equipment tested.

