Bayer CropScience at Norwich is a top tier COMAH site with considerable electrical infrastructure within its boundaries.

The safe ownership and operation of their electrical systems is paramount in order to comply with:

- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 (EAW Regs)

As part of Bayer’s ongoing commitment to making safety improvements they engaged ABB to perform an audit of their existing management of electrical safety.

Solution
ABB carried out a thorough audit and found that Bayer had very good management procedures in place which demonstrated their compliance with the EAW regs.

However, there were improvements which could be made to improve clarification of responsibilities and reduce some overlaps. As a result Bayer worked with ABB to produce revised working procedures to introduce improvements in a number of areas.

A procedure was produced which clarified how Bayer were to comply with the EAW regs. The procedure outlined the various roles and responsibilities of Bayer personnel and the high level principles of electrical safety in areas such as operation, documentation, change control and systems maintenance.

Electrical equipment is required to be maintained so as to avoid danger and to allow the continued use of equipment in service. Bayer and ABB produced an electrical maintenance procedure to provide guidelines for the ongoing examination and routine inspection of electrical equipment. The level and frequency of electrical maintenance must be subject to ongoing review as the condition of equipment is affected by both the environment and its duty.
An ongoing management system along with improved records will enable Bayer to tailor their maintenance ensuring both the highest levels of safety and the most efficient use of resources. Bayer is committed to ensuring that persons are not placed at risk due to a lack of skills in dealing with electrical equipment.

Included with the set of procedures were arrangements for dealing with the various levels of authorisation across the site. Each level of authorisation is now tailored to the individual and details the tasks which that individual is competent to undertake along with a thorough programme of ongoing validation.

**Benefits**
- Compliance with regulations
- Increased levels of safety
- More efficient use of resources
- Clarification of electrical safety responsibilities