



Tool Box Talk

Electrical Safety



Key Points:

- Always use GFCIs when working outside rain or shine
- Inspect cords, tools, and other electrical equipment for defects or damage before each use
- Identify the location of overhead and underground power lines and their voltage
- Inspect extension cords for damage and missing ground pins
- Remove defective tools from service and tag "Do Not Use"

Standards Referenced:

- CS Part 1: General Rules
- CS Part 17: Electrical Installations

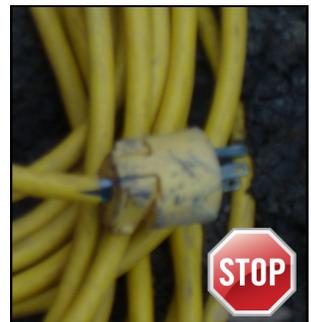
Electrical Safety for Construction Workers:

Electricity is an energy source that we use everyday both at home and at work. In the workplace we must be protected from incidental contact with live electrical circuits operating at 50 volts or more. The primary hazards associated with contact with live circuits include shock, electrocutions, indirect injuries associated with falls or other contact hazards resulting from involuntary muscle reactions.

Most electrical circuits used in everyday construction applications will be operating at 120 volts or more. This voltage is enough to easily overcome our body's natural resistance and will result in a shock or electrocution. However, it is not the voltage that causes the damage, it is the current measured in Amps. It takes less than half of one Amp to cause a fatal shock. Exposure to current at less than 1 Amp can result in serious burns, permanent nerve damage, cardiac arrhythmia, or electrocution. The amount of current, path of travel through the body, and duration of contact with the circuit ultimately determine how much damage is done.

Things that we can do to protect ourselves from exposure to serious or fatal shocks include:

- Always inspect electrical tools and equipment prior to each use for damage or defect
- Remove defective tools from service and tag "Do Not Use"
- Utilize **G**round **F**ault **C**ircuit **I**nterrupters when working in damp environments or anytime working outdoors
- Identify the location of both overhead and underground power lines that could be contacted during the completion of a work activity
- Inspect cords for damage and assure that the ground prong is present
- Make sure that temporary power supplies such as extension cords, power hubs, and generators are rated for the work load and environment in which they will be used
- Make sure that outlets, panels, and fixtures are protected with the appropriately UL rated guard or cover.



No GFCI



Attendance Record

Company: _____

Topic: Electrical Safety _____

Trainer: _____

Date: _____

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Comments: