

Weekly Toolbox

May 17, 2004

Date of Training: _____

Project: _____

Location: _____

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE SPECIFIC TRAINING TOPICS COVERED:

1. Electricity can kill you; always check for electrical hazards in your work area
2. Requirements for connecting power to trailers and working in trailer overhead areas
3. Group-specific topic chosen by supervisor

COMMENTS:

1. Cover the listed safety topics AND one of your choice.
2. Encourage feedback and comments from employees.
3. Have all attendees sign a RFETS training roster.
4. Retain original and roster in facility or project file.
5. Forward copy of this cover and the roster to appropriate Safety & Health organization.

TOTAL ATTENDEES: _____

Supervisor/Foreman: _____

Signature: _____

OFFICIAL RFETS TRAINING ROSTERS SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM
ORIGINAL TO BE LEFT IN PROJECT FILE AND COPIES FORWARDED TO PROJECT SAFETY DEPARTMENT



Electrical safety events are on the rise

An increasing number of SCI-FI observations and several recent events involving electrical power cords indicate we are not focusing as closely on electrical safety as we should.



Many workers know that electricity can be dangerous, but few really understand just how minute a quantity of electrical energy is required for electrocution. In reality, the current drawn by a tiny 7.5 watt, 120-volt lamp, passed from hand to hand or hand to foot across the chest is enough to kill.

Electrocutions may result from contact with an object as seemingly innocent as a broken light bulb or as lethal as an overhead power line. They have affected workers since the first electrical fatality was recorded in France in 1879, when a stage carpenter was killed by an alternating current of 250 volts.

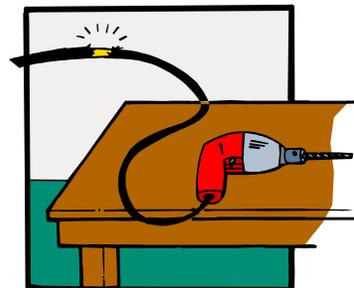
We don't want anyone at Rocky Flats to be injured, or even killed, because they didn't take the danger from electricity seriously enough. Protect yourself and your coworkers and always keep an eye out for electrical hazards.

Be on the lookout for:

- ◆ Wires running across traffic areas
- ◆ Frayed, worn or damaged insulation
- ◆ Electrical equipment operating in damp or hot areas
- ◆ Cords or equipment running near flammables or explosives
- ◆ Plugs that don't match their outlets
- ◆ Tools or equipment that smell hot, smoke or spark
- ◆ Equipment that causes a shock when plugged in

To keep electrical hazards from becoming accidents:

- ◆ Keep power cords away from equipment moving parts or cutting blades
- ◆ Always follow lockout/tagout procedures
- ◆ Inspect cords, tools and other equipment before use
- ◆ Use the appropriate PPE
- ◆ Always follow the manufacturer's instructions
- ◆ Make sure electric tools are clean and free of grease and dust
- ◆ Make sure plugs match outlets
- ◆ Don't operate electrical equipment with wet hands
- ◆ Take extra care working near flammables
- ◆ Never use defective equipment



If you are unsure about any electrical hazard, stop work and contact your project Industrial Hygiene & Safety (IH&S) representative.



Control electrical hazards before connecting power to trailers

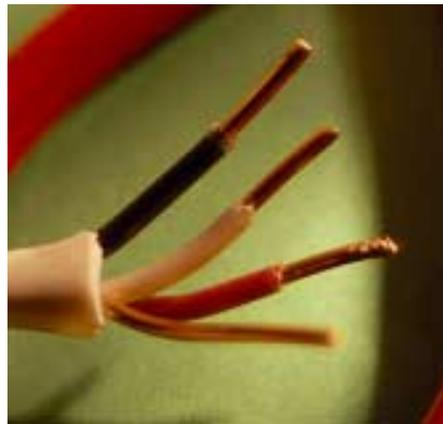
Portable trailers are springing up across site as people move out of offices in buildings that will soon be demolished. Many of these trailers have been used previously and wiring from abandoned systems may be left, a condition common in used trailers.

Recently an IT technician installing communication wiring in the overhead of a trailer recently brought on site was shocked by an improperly terminated, energized 120-volt wire.

The trailer had been connected to site power for installation, but the technician wasn't expecting to work on any energized systems. However, he didn't see a dangling wire and was shocked when he brushed against it.

Safety, Engineering & Quality Programs (SE&QP) has issued Standing Order 99 as guidance to help avoid similar events in the future.

The order requires the following prior to energizing the trailer for any trailer that has been brought on site or moved to a new location:



- ◆ A qualified electrician will inspect the electrical system for bare, exposed or improperly terminated conductors and proper grounding. This inspection will include areas above false ceilings and along the perimeter of the trailer.
- ◆ If circuits in the trailer need to be energized to perform circuit tracing during this inspection, a step allowing energizing the circuits must be included in the work control document. Only qualified electricians in the proper PPE are allowed in the area of the energized circuits.
- ◆ Bare, exposed or improperly terminated conductors will be either removed, locked and tagged out or properly terminated in a box.

In addition, one of the following must be done prior to performing work in the overhead of any trailer on site that has not had this inspection completed by a qualified electrician.

- ◆ Complete the above inspection before allowing work in the overhead.
- ◆ De-energize the trailer before working in the overhead.
- ◆ Have a qualified electrician inspect the immediate vicinity of the work specified in the overhead before working and document in the work control document the specific area and that it is safe for work.

In every case, incorporate the controls used in the applicable work control document.

Contact Luke Williams, x3389, if you have any questions or would like more information.