

Electrical Hazards and Awareness on Construction Sites



Electrical hazards pose significant risks on construction sites, ranging from minor injuries to severe burns or fatalities. Understanding and identifying these hazards, coupled with implementing preventive measures, are critical to maintaining workplace safety.

Common Electrical Hazards

1. Exposed Wiring and Damaged Equipment:

- Inspect tools and cables regularly for damage.
- Remove and tag faulty equipment immediately.

2. Wet Conditions:

- Avoid using electrical tools in damp or wet environments.
- Ensure proper grounding and the use of Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI).

3. Overhead Power Lines:

- Maintain a minimum clearance of 10 feet from overhead lines, may need to be further away as required in cases.
- Clearly mark hazard zones around power lines.
- May need to use spotters.

4. Underground Utilities:

- Always verify and mark underground utilities before digging or excavation. (Call 811)

Prevention and Safety Measures

- Use Minimum of 14-gauge Cords, preferred by most are 12 Gauge Cords.
- Use properly rated and insulated tools and cords.
- Use GFCI's or Assured Grounding Programs.
- Implement Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) procedures to ensure electrical systems are de-energized during maintenance or repair.
- Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including insulating gloves, safety boots, and eye protection.
- Regular training and awareness sessions for employees on electrical safety protocols.
- Qualified people can only repair.

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Emergency Response

- Know about your Emergency Action Plan that your company provides, or site requires.
- Know the location of emergency shut-off switches and electrical panels.
- Never attempt to move a person receiving an electrical shock without first disconnecting the power source.
- Immediately call emergency services if someone experiences an electrical shock or injury.

Responsibilities

- **Employees:**
 - Inspect tools and equipment before use, remove from service as needed.
 - Be vigilant and report unsafe conditions immediately.
 - Follow safety guidelines and procedures.
- **Supervisors:**
 - Conduct daily inspections and comply with safety rules.
 - Provide ongoing training and support staff.

Awareness, preparedness, and adherence to established safety protocols significantly reduce the risk of electrical accidents on construction sites. Everyone's cooperation and vigilance contribute directly to a safer work environment.

Stay alert, work safely, and always report hazards immediately.



Safety Meeting Sign-Off Sheet

Date: _____

Job Name: _____

Competent Person Name: _____

Competent Person Signature: _____

Topic: Electrical Hazards and Awareness on Construction Sites

Attendees:	