



Work Safety Alert

Suspected Electric Shock while Relocating a Water Pump

- 1. Date of Accident :** July 2015
- 2. Place of Accident :** A civil works site
- 3. Summary :**

Two workers were suspected to have received electric shock while conducting electric water pump disposal and relocation work inside an underground shaft. As a result, one worker passed away while the other sustained injury on his arm.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To ensure the safety and health of workers engaged in electric plant disposal and relocation work, the contractors/employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments taking into account the nature of operation and the working environment to identify all potential hazards on site, including electrical hazard;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures with due regard to the results of risk assessments, including the adoption of a permit-to-work system with adequate and appropriate safety measures devised and implemented to eliminate or properly control the electrical hazard involved;



- ensure that the electric plant concerned is rendered dead before conducting the disposal and relocating work by isolating its power supply and locking it out with suitable warning notices displayed;
- identify any possible sources of electrical hazard in the vicinity and eliminate or properly control the hazard;
- conduct proactive inspections and take prompt rectification to ensure that all electric cables, connexions and appliances are effectively protected, insulated and free from damage and faults;
- provide and ensure the use of suitable personal protective equipment, such as insulating gloves, to afford additional protection to the workers involved;
- clearly communicate with all workers and supervisors involved about the hazards, the system of work and the control measures in place to ensure that they all understand their roles and responsibilities;
- provide tailored-made safety training to workers and supervisors involved having due regard to the specific nature, working environment, work methods and plant/equipment to be used in carrying out the electric plant disposal and relocating work; and
- develop and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety precautionary measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Electricity\) Regulations¹](#)

¹ Click to view document



- [Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work](#)¹
- [Basic Electrical Safety Measures in the Workplaces](#)¹
- [《電力工作意外致命個案集》](#)¹ (Chinese Version Only)
- [《電力工作意外致命個案\(第二集\)》](#)¹ (Chinese Version Only)

DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert (“the Alert”) is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.