



**Work Safety Alert**  
**Suspected Electrocution while Clearing Up**  
**Electric Arc Welding Equipment**

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2015
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site
3. **Summary :**

A worker was suspected to have been electrocuted while clearing up electric arc welding equipment on a building construction site.

4. **Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :**

To prevent electrical hazard while engaged in site clearance work involving electric arc welding equipment, the contractors/employers should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments taking into account the working environment to identify all potential hazards on site, including electrical hazard;
- formulate safe work method and procedures with due regard to the results of risk assessments, including the adoption of a permit-to-work system, where necessary;
- ensure that the power supply to the welding equipment should be properly shut down, with the remaining welding electrode on the electrode holder properly detached, after the welding operation;
- ensure that the electric arc welding transformer is rendered dead by isolating its power supply before conducting the clearing up work;
- ensure that all apparatus such as electric arc welding equipment and conductors exposed to weather or water shall be so constructed, installed and protected as necessary to prevent electrical hazard;



- provide and ensure the use of suitable personal protective equipment, such as insulating gloves, to afford additional protection to the workers involved;
- provide the workers involved with sufficient information, instruction and training to ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures; 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 \(Electricity\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Code of Practice: Safety and Health at Work for Manual Electric Arc Welding<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Basic Electrical Safety Measures in the Workplaces<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guide for Safety at Work - Electric Shock Hazard of Manual Electric Arc Welding Work<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [《電力工作意外致命個案集》<sup>1</sup>](#) (Chinese Version Only)
- [《電力工作意外致命個案\(第二集\)》<sup>1</sup>](#) (Chinese Version Only)

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<sup>1</sup> Click to view document



職業安全及健康部  
Occupational Safety and Health Branch  
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Labour Department



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