



職業安全及健康部

Occupational Safety and Health Branch

勞工處

Labour Department



Work Safety Alert

Suspected Electrocution while Dismantling a Cable from a Switchboard

1. **Date of Accident :** September 2023
2. **Place of Accident :** A commercial building
3. **Summary :**

A worker was suspected to have been electrocuted while assisting in dismantling a cable from a switchboard in a room on the roof floor of a commercial building.

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

To prevent any workers from being endangered by electrical hazard while engaged in electrical work, the contractors/ employers should before the commencement of work provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with electrical work, taking into account the nature of work, the work environment, the work activities and the equipment involved;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work 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;



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- verifying and ensuring that the electric wires and connections are rendered dead before the electrical work by isolating its power supply and locking it out with suitable warning notices displayed;
- identifying any possible sources of electrical hazard in the workplace and eliminating or properly controlling the hazard;
- conducting proactive inspections and taking prompt rectification to ensure that all electric wires and connections are effectively protected, insulated and free from damage and faults;
- ensuring that all live conductors, including those forming part of equipment, shall be so placed and safeguarded so as to prevent electrical hazard;
- ensuring that all electrical equipment is properly earthed;
- providing and ensuring the use of suitable personal protective equipment, such as insulating gloves and mat, to afford additional protection to workers involved;
- ensuring the electrical work is only conducted by or under the supervision of a registered electrical worker of appropriate grade;
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures including the procedures to deal with emergency situations and the necessary safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that all safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Basic Electrical Safety Measures in the Workplace](#)¹
- [Work Safety - Electrical Safety and You](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work](#)¹

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.

Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

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