



Work Safety Alert

Electrocuted During Installation of Air-conditioning System

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2017
2. **Place of Accident :** A factory
3. **Summary :**

While three workers were installing an air-conditioning system in a factory, one of them who was carrying out wiring insulation work was suspected to have been electrocuted. The worker was certified dead later on the same day.

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

To ensure the safety and health of workers engaged in electrical work, the contractors/employers should 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 taking into account the nature of work and the working environment to identify all potential hazards on site, particularly electrical hazard;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the electrical work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, including the consideration of adopting a permit-to-work system with adequate and appropriate safety measures devised and implemented to eliminate or control the electrical hazard involved;
- ensuring the electrical work is only conducted by or under the supervision of a registered electrical worker of appropriate grade;



- isolating all voltage from every part of the electrical system to prevent electrical hazard. If the power source is controlled by a circuit breaker or switch, the circuit breaker or switch should be locked off where practical with a warning notice affixed. The keys for the locks used to lock off the circuit breaker or switch should be kept under the control of a responsible person;
- identifying any possible sources of electrical hazards in the vicinity and steps shall be taken to eliminate or control the hazards so identified;
- providing and ensuring the proper use of suitable personal protective equipment such as portable insulating stands, screens, mats, covers and insulating boots, gloves or other protective equipment by the workers/ employees engaged in electrical work as a protection against electrical hazards;
- ensuring that every part of the workplace is sufficiently and suitably lit;
- providing necessary safety information, instruction and training to all workers/ employees involved in the work and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures before assigning them with electrical tasks; and
- developing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety precautionary measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



- [Lighting Assessment in the Workplace](#)¹
- [Work Safety - Electrical Safety and You](#)¹
- [Code of Practice for the Electricity \(Wiring\) Regulations, 2015 Edition, by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department](#)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.