



**Work Safety Alert**  
**Suspected Electrocution while touching Cable of**  
**Electric Arc Welding Equipment**

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2020
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site
3. **Summary :**

A worker while carrying out formwork at the basement level of a construction site was suspected to have received a lethal electric shock after touching the cable of a set of electric arc welding equipment.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from being endangered by any electrical hazards at work, the contractors/ employers responsible for the work 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 to identify all potential hazards, particularly electrical hazards, associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work, the work environment, the work activities and the equipment in the vicinity;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, the requirements of relevant safety legislation and safety guidelines to minimise the risks exposed to the workers/ employees;
- identifying any possible sources of electrical hazards in the vicinity and eliminate or properly control the hazards;
- conducting proactive inspections and taking prompt rectification to ensure that all electrical wires, connections and equipment are effectively protected, insulated and free from damage and faults;



- ensuring all live conductors, including those forming part of equipment, shall be so placed and safeguarded so as to prevent electrical hazards;
- providing and ensuring the use of suitable personal protective equipment, such as insulating gloves, to afford additional protection to workers/ employees involved;
- ensuring workers/ employees involved have received proper safety training and acquired relevant knowledge and experience in using electrical apparatus to enhance their safety awareness on electrical safety; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Electricity\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work<sup>1</sup>](#)

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



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



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**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.