



Electrical safety and accident prevention

PRESENTER: _____ **DATE:** _____

SITE: _____

Welcome to today's toolbox talk! To promote a safe, injury-free work environment, we'll take moment to ensure our teams understand potential hazards (and how to prevent them) before the start of the shift.

AGENDA

- Overview of relevant safety policies/procedures.
- Demonstration of proper equipment/tool use.
- Discuss team questions/concerns.
- Review recent incidents/near misses.

TOPIC

Electricity is used every day in one form or another. During those 24 hours there's at least one construction worker seriously or fatally injured. This makes electricity the fourth-highest cause of occupational death among construction workers.

The most common causes of an electrical-related death include:

- Contact with overhead power lines.
- Failure to de-energize equipment.
- Mistakenly thinking the equipment is de-energized.
- Contact with underground power lines.

Types of electrical injuries will vary, but most commonly include:

- **Electrocution:** This is death by electrical shock.
- **Electrical shock:** This occurs when an electrical current passes through the body. The degree of damage depends on the path the current takes and the size and length of exposure. The longer the exposure, the more severe the injury and potential for death.
- **Burns:** This is the most common type of electrical injury — usually non-fatal.
- **Falls:** Once shocked, a person may also sustain an indirect injury caused by a loss of balance, which can result in serious injury or death.

Electrical accident prevention

Many electrical accidents occur because of poor and/or inadequate planning, failure to follow established rules and procedures, improper/lack of training, used unsafe tools or equipment and general housekeeping. Understanding the hazards associated when working with electrical systems and equipment will greatly reduce your chance of serious or fatal injury.

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UFG INSURANCE | 118 Second Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52401 | ufginsurance.com | 800-332-7977

