

TOOLBOX 27

ELECTRICITY assume all cables are 'live'

Dear workers and subcontractors,

Electricity is silent, invisible but potentially fatal. So it deserves the utmost respect. Never ever take electricity for granted and never assume a circuit is dead. Most accidents happen because people don't look, don't think or just don't understand the shocking power of electricity.



Use the cable protections



Hereby some general safety instructions:

- Electrical cables should be hung up (S-hooks) to avoid trip hazards or damage
- Carry out visual checks of plugs, sockets and cables. If any damage is identified then remove from service
- Any cable joints must utilise proper connector blocks
- The inner insulation of cables should never be visible
- Don't overload circuits, only one plug per socket
- Suitable protection such as circuit breakers, fuses must always be used, along with the correct load ratings. Blown fuses must be replaced immediately.
- For electrical maintenance work ensure the mains supply is disconnected. Remind the **VITAL 5** = disconnect – measure – safety lock – earthing - fencing

During commissioning activities machinery is started up: electricity is put on cabins and machinery, rolls will run, hydraulic arms will move...

- Direct communication between mechanical and process people by walkie-talkie
- Agree which language will be spoken so workers understand correctly the instructions they get from their colleagues
- Make sure that electrical switches, hydraulics, pneumatics are padlocked
- Check if metal structure of the building, machinery must be grounded
- Emergency stop switches must be tested regularly
- Workers, electricians are trained and know the operating procedure of the line
- Read the method statements and risk analysis of the job
- Potential safety hazards must be reported immediately to your supervisor
- If there is any doubt please talk to your supervisor before starting the job

In the event of **accidental damage**, even if only apparently superficial, all persons should be kept clear until trained electricians have made an examination.

Safe regards,

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