

Safety Alert

Incident

Issued: 25/05/2021

HS-SAL-21-088

Contact for further Info:

Brett Coradine – HSE Compliance & Assurance Manager

Email: BCoradine@powernet.co.nz

Mobile: 027 300 9893

Security Class: PowerNet Employees Only

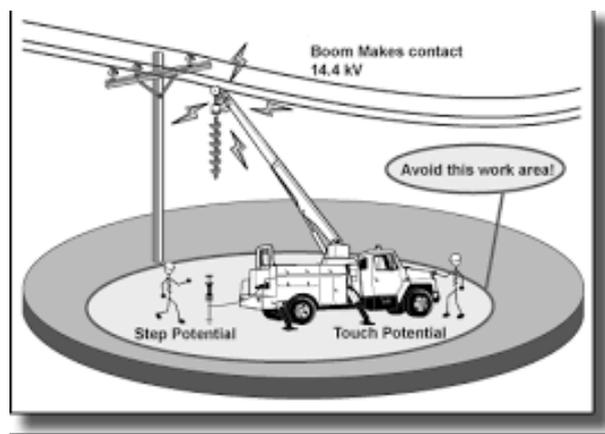
Vehicle Accessed During Live Work Task

During an external audit a trainee was observed accessing a vehicle while the vehicle was attached to a live work task. The vehicle was attached to live conductors via an insulated rig attached to the crane supporting the Live LV conductors.

The practice of accessing vehicles attached to live conductors poses a serious electrical step and touch hazard to the individual or team attempting to access the vehicle

Definitions:

- Step Potential – **voltage** difference between a person's feet.
- Touch Potential – is the **voltage** between any two points on a person's body – hand to hand, shoulder to back, elbow to hip, hand to foot and so on.



Images: Step and Touch Potential Image

What we all need to do:

1. All persons at ground level shall be kept clear to avoid contact with all vehicles and associated plant attached to live line work tasks or working in the vicinity of live equipment regardless of voltage being work on.
2. An exclusion zone must be set up around vehicles and plant that are attached to live work tasks or operating in the vicinity of live equipment. Ground staff and the public must maintain a distance of at least six (6) metres of the vehicles and associated plant, the exclusion zone should reflect this distance.
3. As part of the Hazard ID Risk Assessment ground staff must be informed of electrical step and touch hazards and the safety measures applied.
4. Requirements of OP-PRO-0019 – Live LV Work – Earthing of Vehicles and Associated Plant in the Vicinity of Live Equipment must be applied when vehicles and associated plant are operating in the vicinity of live equipment.

HSE Team have provided all identified external and internal interested parties with this Safety Alert.

NOTE: HSE Team are the only authority to release and circulate this Safety Alert.