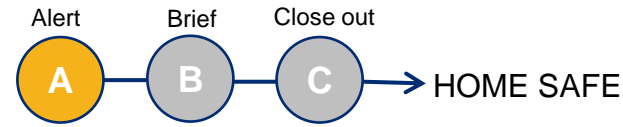


SHE ALERT

HV Cable Flashover

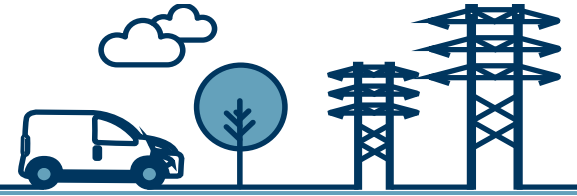
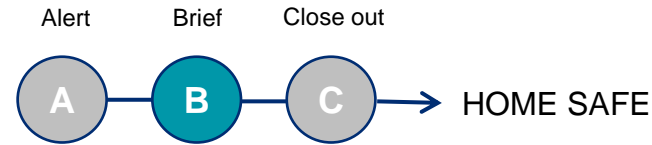


Date of incident	31-12-22		Directorate	Operations SEPD	
Region	Wessex	Location	Poole	Classification	LTI
What happened ?					
<p>While repairing a section of faulty HV cable under a permit to work, two colleagues were injured following an HV flashover. Both received burns to their hands and faces and are continuing to recover from their injuries.</p> <p>The cable being worked on had been moved from its original position to the other side of the excavation due to being in proximity to an adjacent wall. Also in the excavation was a second live HV cable and a live LV cable.</p> <p>While preparing to carry out a second joint on the section of faulty cable, a cast iron compound filled straight joint on the second live HV cable failed resulting in a flashover.</p> <p>An investigation is underway to identify the cause of the flashover. Learnings will be communicated once complete.</p> <p>What we need to do</p> <p>Please ensure that any live cables within an excavation are not moved or walked on.</p> <p>The POWRA should also take into account the condition of any live joints or other apparatus within the working area and that PPE requirements are maintained in accordance with Distribution SHE Team - WI-NET-OSM-002.pdf - All Documents (sharepoint.com)</p>					



SHE BRIEF

HV Cable flashover



Key initial learnings to be shared more widely

What happened

While repairing a section of faulty HV cable under a permit to work, two colleagues were injured following an HV flashover. Both received burns to their hands and faces.

The cable being worked on had been moved from its original position to the other side of the excavation due to being in proximity to an adjacent wall. Also in the excavation was a second live HV cable and a live LV cable. While preparing to carry out a second joint on the section of faulty cable, a cast iron compound filled straight joint on the second live HV cable failed resulting in a flashover.

Key Learning Points

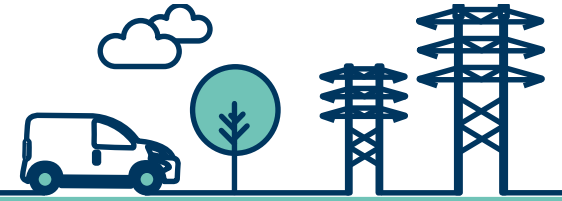
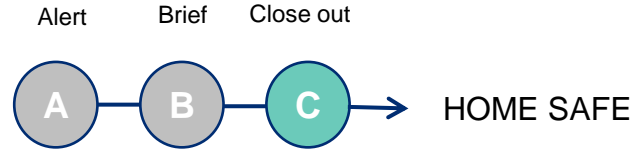
- Ensure that any live apparatus within an excavation remains undisturbed.
- Record on your POWRA when working adjacent to any live apparatus.
- If utilities have been exposed, where applicable support them and protect from damage – paying particular attention to cable joints.
- Cover any exposed cable joints with blast blankets where required.
- Always wear the correct PPE for the task.
- If something doesn't look right, stop and escalate and use your safety license.

Stage C closeout brief to follow detailing actions with respect to immediate incident management and escalation process.



SHE BRIEF

HV Cable flashover



This is what we have learned and done

What Happened

While repairing a section of faulty HV cable under a PTW, two colleagues were injured following an HV flashover. Both received burns to their hands and faces.

Key Learning Points from the investigation

- Always use a Point Of Work Risk Assessment to consider risk from adjacent live cables in any excavation.
- If required, any apparatus within the excavation should be adequately supported.
- Cover any exposed cable joints with blast blankets if deemed necessary.
- If there are concerns regarding the integrity of any cables or joints in the excavation, use your Safety licence and request that they are de-energised prior to work.
- Always treat cables and joints with care and ensure that any live apparatus within an excavation remains undisturbed. Relatively small movements in cables can result in joints and other accessories being damaged.
- Do not walk on any cables or joints or use them as a step for access and egress to an excavation.
- Keep any emergency provisions such as First Aid kits, Burns kits, fire extinguishers, clean water etc at the point of work or as near as possible, to minimise any delay if they are required.
- Always wear the correct PPE for the task you are undertaking. If you are unsure of what is required, ask your line manager.

Have you received the June SATT on What To Do in An Emergency? [What to do in an Emergency SATT.pptx](#)

