



Safety Advice 46-2013 (Nov) (NZ)

The following Safety Alert courtesy of Transpower and Electrix is an example of an observed work-around having the potential for unintended serious harm. The Alert highlights the need for planning (in this case safe access throughout), awareness of change, and re-visiting the plan where change or unexpected circumstances arise.

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safety alert

E12520 Edgecumbe Substation Cable Raceway Event

An Electrix employee was observed using the top of a protection panel as a work platform. As a result the work was stopped.

Working off a step ladder, above and between two rows of protection panels the employee was in the process of drilling fixing holes to secure pre fabricated lengths of cable raceway to the support system that was suspended from the ceiling.

Due to the limited access of the worksite the employee found that he could not complete the drilling, using the step ladder as planned for access.

Task focussed the employee carried on, eventually leading the employee to use the top of the protection panel as a work platform.



The employee's initial plan was a good plan. Where the plan failed was, when confronted with access issues the employee did not stop and re-think the plan.

We are all faced with changes to our work plans, whether forced or unseen. It may be a change in the environment or simply be because the plan does not work.

The next time change occurs take the time to **STOP** and **THINK**. Look at the situation, reassess the hazards and make a new plan. It is how we **REACT** to and how effectively we manage the change that counts.

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Safety Alerts are advisory only. They contain limited information on an event which has been investigated and reported and the key findings of the investigation are published as a Safety Alert to highlight the key learnings from the event