Safety Advice 06-2006 (NZ)

June 2006 – Trainee Line Mechanic Sustains Minor Burns

Work was in progress replacing steel sections in a tower supporting an in-service twin circuit 110kV line. The work was to ensure that the tower met current structural specifications.

A trainee line mechanic was removing a 2.6 metre length of steel section from the side of the tower facing one of the in-service circuits. While removing the piece of steel, the line mechanic pulled it towards himself and over his shoulder. The steel section encroached the MAD for the line and a flashover occurred, tripping the circuit.

The trainee line mechanic sustained minor burns to his right arm and was immediately taken for medical attention.