



FITTER SUFFERS BURN FROM GENERATOR

A SPEN fitter carrying out a switchgear replacement has suffered burns to his hand. After removing the oil from the old equipment he was removing oil lines and disconnecting the generator when in an effort to steady himself and gain purchase on the plug, placed his hand on the hot exhaust of the generator. He received burns to his right hand which required him to attend hospital to have checked out and subsequently dressed.



Injury to palm of Hand

He was correctly wearing a pair of Nitrile gloves to protect from the oil he was handling but these offered no protection from heat and in fact may have exacerbated matters by reducing sensitivity to heat and delaying reaction time.



Exhaust with imprint of glove

There was no clear visual indication warning that the surface was hot.

Recommendations and action points

- All generators should have indication to highlight hot surfaces which have the potential to cause injury. If you have such a generator without any warning signs it shall be returned to GAP, this can be arranged through your Team Leader and GAP service depot.
- Ensure you wear the correct gloves for the task being undertaken and be aware of their limitations.