



## FLASHOVER INCIDENT INVOLVING A METAL CLAD CUT-OUT

### OVERVIEW

Following a recent flashover incident involving a metal clad cut-out, staff are reminded it is **ONLY** permitted to remove and replace metal clad cut-out lids subject to compliance with the following conditions:

- All cut-outs must be assessed individually prior to attempting any live work on them and a site specific (point of work) risk assessment shall be completed;
- A thorough visual inspection must take place, concentrating on the mechanical condition of the cut-out, to ensure all castings are unbroken and that any location lugs or hinges are intact;
- There must be no evidence to suggest the possibility of an electrical failure such as burning, audible arcing or repeated fault history; and
- The person removing the lid, replacing the lid, inserting / replacing fuses, and undertaking investigation shall wear as a minimum full face protection, LV gloves with leather over-gloves and flame retardant coveralls.

### DETAIL

The photo shows the type of metal clad cut-out involved in this incident. Extreme caution must be exercised when removing or replacing lids on this or similar types of equipment.



### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Following the removal of the cut-out lid and before the lid can be replaced:

- A thorough inspection of the internal parts must take place to ascertain whether or not replacement of the lid can be undertaken safely with the cut-out live.
- Ensure phase barriers and other insulation or protective materials are in place.
- A further inspection of the mechanical condition needs to be undertaken to ensure the castings are unbroken and that location lugs and hinges are intact.
- If there is **ANY DOUBT** that the lid can be replaced safely, the cut-out should be made dead by isolating from the appropriate network location(s).

It is the responsibility of line management to ensure all appropriate employees are issued with this document and to check their understanding of its content. This document will be subject to compliance audits within 14 days from the date of issue.