TXUAUSTRALIA SAFETYGRAM

TXUAUSTRALIA
Michael Shone
Health & Safety Mgr
Lev 35, 385 Bourke St
Melbourne, 3000
Ph (03) 8628 1008
Fax (03) 8628 1577

ESAA Secretariat
PO Box A2492
Sydney South NSW 1235
Telephone: (02) 9261 0141
Facsimile: (02) 9261 3153
Email: grant@esaa.com.au

ESAA No. 33/2003

DATE: 16/07/03	**TXUAUSTRALIA SAFETYGRAM**
DATE OF INCIDENT: 14/07/03	**REPORTED BY: TXU**

Details of Incident:
Construction crew was preparing to carry out live line work at pole 228 on the Beechworth feeder line within the township area. Whilst preparing to set up to and install the HZ bracket from an EPV the lineworker dropped the bracket, which then fell onto the switch below. The bracket made contact with the HV conductor and the switch frame and the phase to earth contact caused the Myrtleford ACR to open. The Myrtleford ACR was suppressed at the time. The crew returned to the ground and made contact with the NCC. After confirming the situation with the NCC the HZ bracket was retrieved and works then proceeded as planned. The feeder outage was estimated to be 5 to 10 minutes.

Extent of injury/damage:
Near hit. Customers off supply.

Contributing Factors

- Regular activity being undertaken but crew found themselves without the correct equipment for the task.
- Procedures for activity/task available & known but not followed.
- The unsuitability of using an AB clamp to hold the HZ in position on the x-arm.
- AK heads designed for use on Live Line Clamps but not suited to maintaining control of a HZ.

Action taken:

- Self-imposed ban on the uses of HZ brackets implemented immediately but has been lifted since investigation completed.
- Procedures for activity/task to be reviewed and reinforced with employees
- Cessation of the use of AB clamps for this task.
- 'Grip-all' sticks to replace AB clamps for this task
- Relevant manuals, work practices & procedures to be updated to reflect all changes as a result of investigation recommendations Relevant manuals, work practices & procedures to be updated to reflect all changes as a result of investigation recommendations

Additional comments:
Procedures for activity/task available & known and found to be suitable to the task.
Incident has resulted in a change of equipment for this task

Severity of incident:

HIGH: Potential to have caused serious injury, permanent disability, ill health or serious damage to plant and equipment.

FURTHER INFORMATION- CONTACT: Michael Shone 03 8628 1008 Mob.: 0417320582
michael.shone@txu.com.au