



Safety Advice 01-2001 (NZ)

BERM MOUNTED 11KV OIL SWITCH

A 15 year old youth received serious burns when he made contact with live parts on a berm mounted 11kV oil switch unit. It would appear that the busbar extension end cover had been removed previously by unauthorised persons. The youth was removing the heat shrink cover from one of the busbars when a flashover occurred. In order to ensure better protection from such vandalism of electrical equipment in the public environment, the use of anti tamper type fixing screws on covers needs to be considered. It is noted that domed head in-hex machine screws are now used by the manufacturer instead of hexagonal head bolts. The use of thread locking adhesives may also be considered to provide additional security.