

# People - Safety Incident Alert

## “Lost Time Injury” (LTI) Event

Date: 20 November 2019

Vault #: 6250

### What happened?

Whilst responding to a fault on the Orion 11kV overhead network after an electrical storm had moved through the Canterbury Region, an Orion Network Operator sustained an injury to his face when struck by a small metal fragment ejected from a drop out fuse when it was closed onto a faulty transformer.

#### NOTE:

Orion requires that Network Operators complete this type of operating activity from the ground, and in this case the Network Operator was positioned 4.8 m from the base of pole and the distance to the drop out fitting was 7.9 m while using an insulated tele-sopic fuse stick.



### Finding:

This event is completely unique in its entirety for Orion, and on investigation there appears to be no previous reported events prior to this one occurring. Thus, a technical root cause has not been found and the supplier has no evidence of this occurring elsewhere. This is after the supplier also asked their international company colleagues who supply millions of these drop out fuses world-wide.

### To keep yourself & others safe:

- A Safety Advice is to be developed and issued to the wider industry for awareness and learning
- Orion are reviewing the current PPE Standard to ensure the PPE criteria are applicable to the current Network Operator work activities
- Ensure that a Risk Assessment is performed before work is commenced (Refer SM-EI / 3.303)
- Always review and confirm that your hazard treatments, are fully effective for the duration of the task (Refer SM-EI / 3.303)
- Ensure that PPE requirements are appropriate for the activity being undertaken (SM-EI Part 2 Section 13 - PPE) as a minimum