



Safety Advice 35-2013 (Oct) (NZ)

EEA Safety Advice 35-2013(a) (Oct) (NZ) courtesy of Transpower and Electrix, is a supplementary advice to 35-2013 published in October and concerning an employee sustaining electric shock from an earth cable screen while removing a series of these from a 33kV cable earth bonding bar. The supplementary advice contains information about underlying causes of this potentially serious harm electrical incident.

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safety alert

The things that you cannot see are the things worth looking at

E12562 Electric shock from cable screen

The employee received the shock whilst disconnecting cable screens for testing purposes. The employee was taken for a check up and was released to return to work.

Hazard Identification, Fatigue and Resourcing were identified as key factors in the event.

Hazard Identification

The team completed the process on site however the time was not taken to assess all of the work areas involved in the task.

Fatigue

The mental stress associated with tracing the cable screens and the physical nature of the task, hampered by an untidy installation and the uncomfortable environment slowly eroded the employee's performance.

Resourcing

The employee knew the importance of ensuring that the correct cable screens were disconnected.

He took responsibility and ownership for the task however the process used to trace the cable screens was, in reality a two man job.

Key Lessons

Be honest with yourself and the team, do you complete the hazard identification process at all work faces, do you recognise that fatigue will eventually affect your performance. Do you think four hands would be better than two, stop the job and speak out to ask for assistance.

The things that you cannot see are the things worth looking at

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Safety Alerts are advisory only. They contain limited information on an event which has been investigated and reported and the key findings of the investigation are published as a Safety Alert to highlight the key learnings from the event