

Stay Safe. Stay Informed. September 2023



Incident Review – Part 2

Did You Know?

ESA reviews and reports on electrical incidents that occur. We have highlighted two of these incidents below.

Incident #1 – Faulty Disconnect

Summary:

An electrician suffered severe burns due to an arc flash incident from a faulty disconnect switch. The switch failed when the worker attempted to turn the handle of the switch to the OFF position.

Causal Factors:

- Hinge pin was not flared during the manufacturing process
- Electrician was not dressed to Z462 standard requirements for this task.



Incident #2 – Switchgear Arc Fault

Summary:

An electrical contractor's three-man crew was replacing switchgear in the main electrical room of a twelve-story condominium building. During preparation, the victim and his co-worker removed the panel covers off the cabinet containing the old switchgear while it was still energized. An arc flash occurred causing burns to the victim.

Causal Factors:

- 1. Condominium has never reviewed health and safety policy on any job with the contractor.
- 2. Condominium did not review health and safety policy on this job.
- 3. Covers removed off the panel before shutting the power off.
- 4. Appropriate PPE was not worn by the workers on the job.





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