

Vol 17 - No 22 ELECTRICAL SHOCK ACCIDENT WITH LIGHTING CIRCUIT



INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:

A third year apprentice was working under the supervision of a journeyman making joints. The apprentice, having been assured by the journeyman that the circuit was dead, climbed the eight foot ladder to complete the circuit (figure 1) Upon contact with the 277 lighting voltage, the apprentice fell off the ladder to the floor below (figure 2). He suffered electrical shock burns and severe bruising to his back and pelvis.

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS:

One of the most important rules for electrical work is to assume all circuits to be energized until the electrician working on the circuit personally tests the circuit with a voltmeter or "wiggy" (never a circuit tracer pen) and verify that the circuit is de-energized. He is also to ensure that lock-out/tag-out measures have been implemented for the circuit in question.

This serious and potentially fatal accident could have been prevented by following the established safety procedures. If you are not personally sure it is dead... it is a live circuit.

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TOOLBOX

Date

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Company

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