

TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

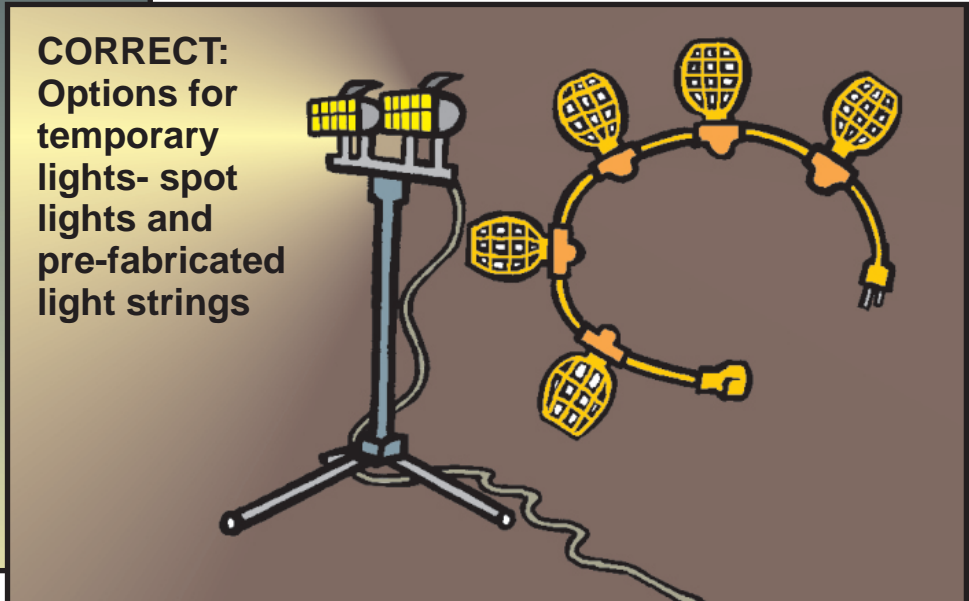
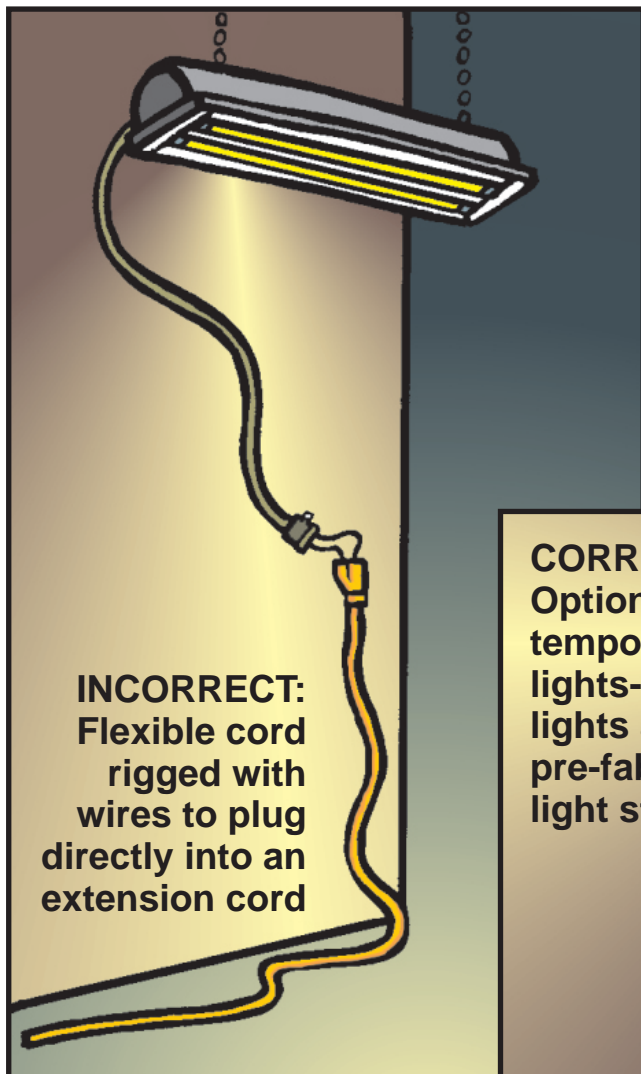
Vol 16 - No 2 TEMPORARY LIGHTING SHORTCUTS

Shortcuts can kill! All construction trades are often under extreme pressure to perform a difficult job with too little time and often too few resources. Unfortunately, when these two factors are present some may give into the temptation of taking shortcuts because they feel that is the only way to keep a customer happy. The drawback to this thinking is that safety can become secondary to production and the result is safety violations and extreme danger to the electrician as well as other contractors on the job.

One electrical contractor that was behind schedule was responsible to provide temporary lighting to contractors conducting finish work in a high rise remodeling project. In the drawing you can see that the electricians felt the way to save time was to use MC Cable (multi-conductor cable) with the conductors inserted directly into an extension cord. The extension cord was plugged into a duplex receptacle and allowed them to provide power to overhead light fixtures. The electricians were well aware of the danger involved in a splice of this type and knew that this was a blatant safety violation as well as poor practice.

Time and schedule demands will always be part of the struggle of construction work. However, we should remember to do our best to plan ahead. Providing temporary lighting may have to be accomplished at times through the use of pre-fabricated light strings or spot lights until a more stable and safe option is available. Never sacrifice safety for production. In doing so you put yourself, your co-workers, and other contractors at risk.

29 CFR 1926.405(g) FLEXIBLE CORDS AND CABLES
(1)(iii)(A) Prohibited uses: Flexible cords and cables shall not be used as a substitute for the fixed wiring of a structure.



TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 16 - No 2 TEMPORARY LIGHTING SHORTCUTS

Shortcuts can kill! All construction trades are often under extreme pressure to perform a difficult job with too little time and often too few resources. Unfortunately, when these two factors are present some may give into the temptation of taking shortcuts because they feel that is the only way to keep a customer happy. The drawback to this thinking is that safety can become secondary to production and the result is safety violations and extreme danger to the electrician as well as other contractors on the job.

One electrical contractor that was behind schedule was responsible to provide temporary lighting to contractors conducting finish work in a high rise remodeling project. In the drawing you can see that the electricians felt the way to save time was to use MC Cable (multi-conductor cable) with the conductors inserted directly into an extension cord. The extension cord was plugged into a duplex receptacle and allowed them to provide power to overhead light fixtures. The electricians were well aware of the danger involved in a splice of this type and knew that this was a blatant safety violation as well as poor practice.

Time and schedule demands will always be part of the struggle of construction work. However, we should remember to do our best to plan ahead. Providing temporary lighting may have to be accomplished at times through the use of pre-fabricated light strings or spot lights until a more stable and safe option is available. Never sacrifice safety for production. In doing so you put yourself, your co-workers, and other contractors at risk.

29 CFR 1926.405(g) FLEXIBLE CORDS AND CABLES
(1)(iii)(A) Prohibited uses: Flexible cords and cables shall not be used as a substitute for the fixed wiring of a structure.

